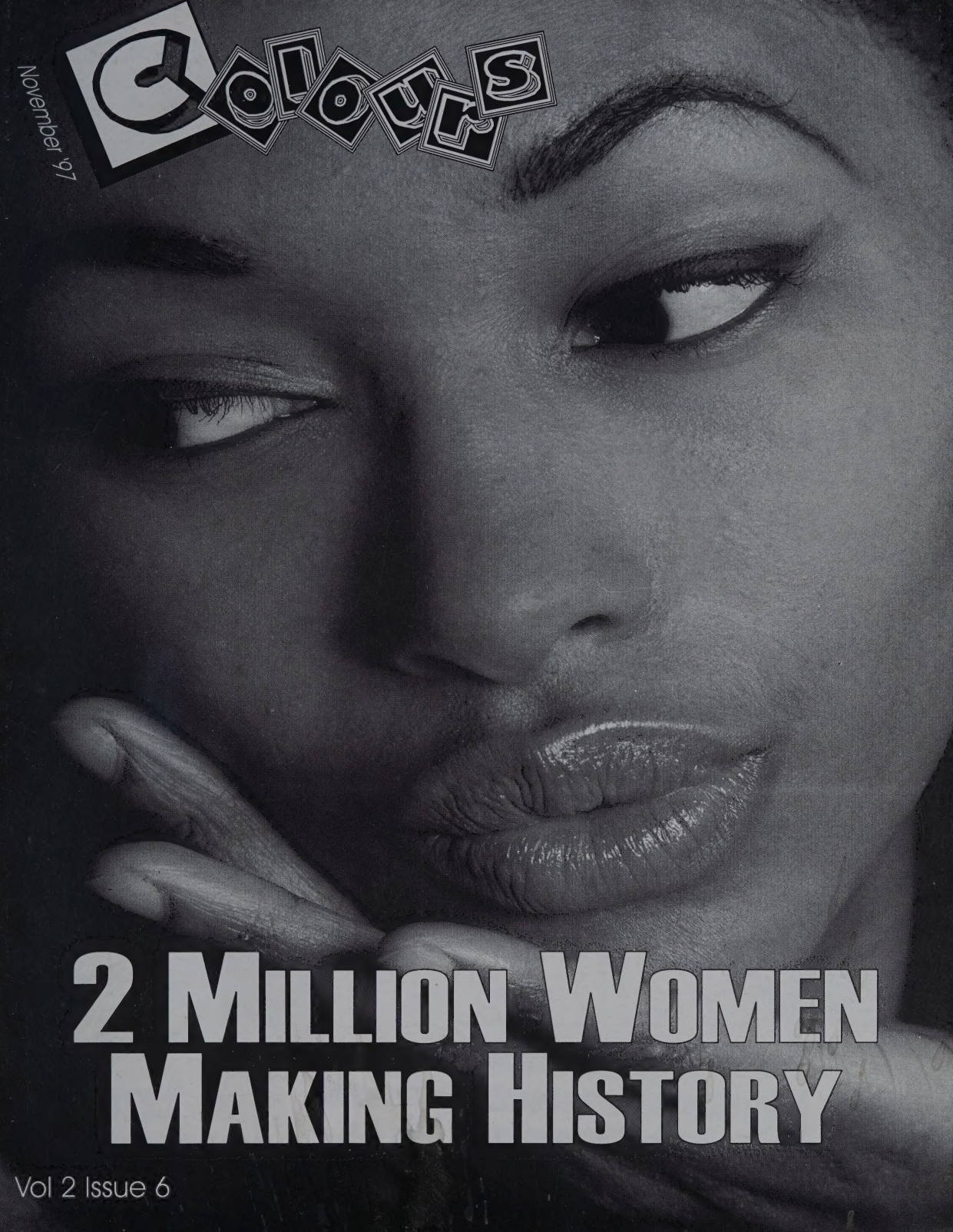

Colours
November '97
2 Million Women
Making History
Vol 2 Issue 6

Talent Showcase

Sunday

December 7, 1997

6pm-11pm

Networking Party

Sisters

Supporting

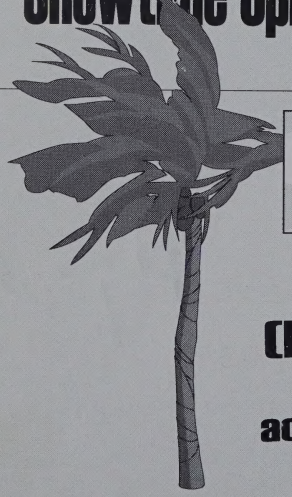
Sisters

Hosted by: CeCe Antionette

SINGERS * COMEDIANS * POETS

MUSICIANS * RAPPERS * DRAGKINGS

Showtime 9pm * Donation $5 * Free Buffet * Cash Bar



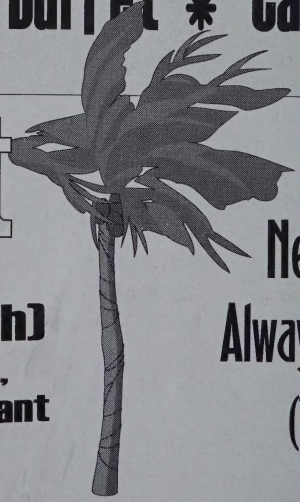
Palm Court

On Dekalb Ave.

(Bet. Hudson & Flatbush)

Behind Forgoodness Steaks,

across from Juniors Restaurant



New Talent

Always Welcome

(718) 783-6642

Where To Find Colours

In Brooklyn

Chocolate Dreams
Mgt.
96 Lefferts Pl.

Nkiru Books
76 St. Marks Ave.

Brooklyn Moon
Cafe
745 Fulton St.

Brooklyn Dinner
515 Atlantic Ave.

KoKoBar
59 Lafayette Ave.

Shades of
Lavendar
470 Bergen St.

Beyond Words
Bookstore
186 5th Ave.

Audre Lorde
Project
85 South Oxford St.

In Queens

The Boulevard
Cafe
137-65 Queens
Blvd.

In Manhattan

A Different Light
Bookstore
151 West 19th St.

Gay & Lesbian
Community Center
208 West 13th St.

Crazy Nanny's
21 7th Ave. South

In the Bronx

BLCC
The Poe Building
2432 Grand
Concourse
Suite 504

In New Jersey

The Castle Club
141 Bright St.

Pride Center of
New Jersey
211 Livingston Ave.

In Washington

Lambda Rising
1625 Connecticut
Ave. N.W.

Lammas Women's
Books & More
1426 21st St. N.W.

In Maryland

Lambda Rising
241 W. Chase St.

In Philadelphia

Giovanni's Room
345 South 12th St.

G & L Center
201 South Camac
St.

Libations
Broad & Locust Sts.

Feature Stories

2 Million Women Making History

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Homophobia in Female Sports

...Page 14

Holiday Events

...Page 24

Cover Model: Paula Chin

Cover Photo by Stan Williams

COLOURS MAGAZINE

"COLOURS!" An informational resource for lesbians of color which provides as a strong network that is geared for her by her.

PUBLISHER
Chocolate Dreams Management

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Sheila D. Ward

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Cheryl-Ann Bobcombe

LAYOUT & DESIGN
Beyond Words

CONTRIBUTING ARTIST
Anthony Robinson
Stan Williams

SECRETARY
Rosemary Townes

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Brahm
C.A.B
Sean

SALES & PROMOTION
Maria Young
Bronthie Jones

96 Lefferts Place
Brooklyn, New York 11238
Phone/Fax: (718) 783-6642 (local)
Phone/Fax: (800) 792-0193 (long distance)

E-mail address: XCOLOURS@aol.com

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Hello Ladies,

NAG is moving on. Unfortunately, as you may already know, the Holloween party did not take place last month. We were being asked to compromise our standards and loyalties to the Lesbian community which we serve. Therefore, **NAG** has chosen to no longer be the Promoters for the Boulevard Café.

Life is about lessons, therefore, we give thanks for: Prayer, Faith, Love, Laughter, Tears, Fun, Dedication, Time, Imagination, Strength, Patience, Living, Giving and most of all, we give thanks for friends like you who have shared it all with us.

NAG would like to extend a special shout out to our staff and a few supporters:

Chinadoll & Minerva
Suzanne
Yolanda
Loretta
The **NAG** Wives
Madison
Strawberry
Big E
Everelle
Colours
(Sheila & Cheryl-Ann)
Issonna & Robin
(Food is always delicious)
BC Women's Softball Team
Personals Personals
(Sonoma & Majade)
Raven & Winette
Mimi & Rosa
Samantha
Lorna
Amy & Maiya
Blondie
Alison
Tonia
Hoolie & "E" (The First "E")
Linda ("E" Associate)
Cecile (Coco)
Sisters Uptown Bookstore
Pocono Crew (u know who u r)
Kim "Grr" Miller
Miss Pat
Micheline & Daisy
Laura
Madonna
Crystal
Jackie
Sandra
Delicious Designz
B'von Graphics
Drag King Dred
Turk "Luscious"
Natalie A.

Also, the Ladies from the Island, Queens, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Manhattan, Staten Island, New Jersey and out of state. If we missed anyone, please forgive us.

We hope you join us in February '98 for our Anniversary Party. Look for NAG in Colours Magazine regarding date and time. Until then continue to keep the peace, support each other and stay healthy.

NAG

NYC FESTIVALS

Sat. November 8
9th Precinct Community Festival
West 4th Street, Broadway-Bowery

Sun. November 9
Court St. Cobble Hill Festival
Court St., Atlantic Ave.-Warren St.

Sun. November 23
Antique District Thanksgiving Weekend Festival
24th Street, 6th Ave.-Broadway

Sat. December 6
Multicultural Holiday Crafts Festival & Flea Market
Lafayette Masonic Temple
Brooklyn, NY
Info: (718) 875-4813

Talent Showcase & Networking Party
Sunday
December 7, 1997
at Palm Court, Bklyn
6-11pm
$5.
(718) 783-6642

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Amateur Night at the Apollo presented by Coca Cola
Nov. 5, 12 & 19, 1997
December 3 & 10, 1998
253 W 125th Street, NYC
Info: (212) 307-7171

WorldBeat JAZZ at the Guggenheim Museum
Friday and Saturday nights 5-8pm
Enjoy jazz and cocktails in the Frank Lloyd Wright Rotunda at the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Fifth Ave. at 88th St. (212) 432-3500.

FILM

New York Lesbian & Gay Experimental Film/Video Festival
November 6-16, 1997
341 Lafayette St., NYC
Info: (212) 501-2309

MUSIC

City Opera '97-'98 Season
New York State Theater
@ Lincoln Center, NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

Metropolitan Opera '97-'98 Season
Metropolitan Opera House
@ Lincoln Center, NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

Washington Opera
November 8-30, 1997
"I Pagliacci" & "Romeo & Juliet"
Kennedy Center Opera House
F St. & New Hampshire Ave. NW
Washington, DC
Tx/Info: (202) 467-4600

Opera Company of Philadelphia
November 10, 14, 16 & 19, 1997
Academy of Music
Broad & Locust Streets, PA
Tx: (215) 928-2100
Info: (215) 928-2110

Coltrane: A Love Supreme
November 13, 1997
Carnegie Hall
881 Seventh Ave., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 247-7800

Fridays After Five
November 7, 14, 21 & 28, 1997
December 5, 12, 19 & 26, 1997
Live music set to reef fish, sharks, and jellyfish at the National Aquarium at Baltimore, MD., 501 E. Pratt (Inner Harbor). Info: (410) 576-3800.

Regina Carter (violinist) - November 10, 1997 she ranges from classical music to R&B and hip hop. **David "Fathead" Newman** (saxophonist) - November 24, 1997 a pivotal part of Ray Charles' band who has become a top jazz R&B bandleader in his own right. Both at the Kennedy Center @ F St. & New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC. Info: (202) 467 4600.

The Wizard at 100: **Sidney Bechet**
Thursday & Saturday, November 20 & 22, 1997 @ 8pm
The 100th birthday of jazz's first international superstar is upon us. Sidney Bechet fests dot the globe all year, and ours will be among the finest. Led by Wynton Marsalis. Alice Tully Hall, 165 West 65th St., NYC. For Further information call (212) 875-5600

Boys Choir of Harlem with
New York Philharmonic
December 20, 1997
Alice Tully Hall-Lincoln Center
65th St. & Broadway, NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 721-6500

Soprano **Kathleen Battle** &
the Philadelphia Orchestra
January 2, 3 & 6, 1998
Academy of Music
Broad & Locust Streets
Philadelphia, PA
Tx Info: (215) 893-1999

DANCE

American Ballet Theatre
November 4-16, 1997
City Center, W. 55th St. @ 6th Ave., NYC. Tx Info: (212) 581-1212

Dancer Theatre of Harlem
November 16, 1997
Colden Auditorium
Queens College, Flushing, NY
Tx Info: (212) 708-3030

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
Season @ City Center, W 55th St. bet. 6th & 7th Ave., NYC
Tx Info: (212) 307-7171

Forces of Nature Dance company
A Kwaanza Celebration
December 26, 1997
Aaron Davis Hall
W. 135th St. & Convent Ave., NYC
Tx Info: (212) 307-7171

New York City Ballet
"Nutcracker"
November 28 1997-January 4, 1998
NY State Theatre @ Lincoln Center
65th St. & Broadway, NYC
Tx Info: (212) 307-4100
"The Harlem Nutcracker"
December 2-7, 1997
George Mason University Center for the Arts
4400 University Drive
Fairfax, VA
Tx Info: (703) 993-8888
"The Nutcracker"
National Ballet **Company**
December 10-17, 1997
Bowie State University Meyers Theater
14000 Jericho Park Road, MD
Tx Info: (301) 464-3000

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GREAT ESCAPES

Women's Spiritual Healing Retreats September 19-21, 1997 & February 13-15, 1998. Kateri Center near Marlboro, NJ; Have a powerful, dynamic and moving retreat experience in a safe sacred space for women to heal, explore, transform and be empowered. Info. (908) 628-0357

Lesbian & Gay '98 Weekend Escape Upstate, NY; January 9-11, 1998; Skiing, Horseback Riding, Movies, Bowling & Much more. Call for details (212) 368-0717.

Mardi Gras in New Orleans 1998
February 21-25
Call (212) 368-0717 for details.

Gay Games in Amsterdam
August 1-8, 1998
Pre-registration call (212) 368-0717

girl power...

THE DUELLING D.J'S

Who is the most versatile Female DJ in NYC?

SPIN SPIN SUGAR... WOW! WEDNESDAYS

WEDNESDAY NOV 19TH FROM 10PM

GRAND SPIN OFF..
FIND OUT WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE FEMALE D.J. IN NYC

Winners from our 2 previous rounds compete for $300 Cash
Plus a free Trip to
Spin at WOW Bar London

You vote by secret ballot.

7-10 HAPPY HOUR
Come out Early for a Free Alizé
2 for 1 DRINK SPECIALS
Complimentary Tasty Appetizers

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D.J. M.K.
THANKSGIVING EVE

Alizé — HX FOR HER NEW YORK CITY

40 below 40 West 8th St.bet 5&6 Ave.@ MacDougal, Greenwich Village
Cover $4B4 9:30pm • $6 After • $1 offf w/W.O.W. card or with ad. For info: 212 631-1102

Discretion

(212) 368-0717

Lesbian & Gay Travel IGTA

2 Million Women Making History

MILLION WOMAN MARCH (MWM)

An approximated two million women of color converged onto Philadelphia on October 25, 1997 to take part in a historic event. Despite the weather, these women marched two miles down *Benjamin Franklin Parkway* [which ended at the *Art Museum*] to hear an array of speakers and performers. The purpose was to call upon the women of color to bond together in the spirit of family, unity, and love. It was to strive for higher levels of education to get better jobs in order to raise stronger families in hopes of creating a well-paved future.

While this all seemed so positive, the messages of hate were surely the strong undertones. How can this oppressed group of people, who have had to struggle for equality, continue to exclude the lesbians [and gays] of its fold. It seems as though you can be anything in the black community, from a murderer to child molester, and receive sympathy and forgiveness....you just can't be **GAY**! The Winan sisters tell us *"it's unnatural!"* Our fellow sisters of color tell us that something is definitely wrong with us...we're sick...and that we need help! Jada Pinkett stressed that it takes a man and a woman to make a family whole? Nothing could be farther from the truth! Maxine Waters encouraged that we as a community should define ourselves and not be defined by others.

Let's digest the above for a moment... My question to lesbian sisters of color is --- "How can we change these false perceptions?" First, we must define ourselves by showing or community that we love ourselves as well as our sisters...gay or straight! We must let them know that we are not ashamed of who we choose to love...that we are educated...working professionals...mothers...wives [women committed/married to women]...the foundation of strong well structured families...and the men we love are identified as our friends, our fathers, and our children [not our lovers, our husbands, or our partners].

Next, it is imperative that there is UNITY in our community. We can't bicker about trivial issues that keep us divided or even hold grudges that can only fester hate in the long run. All of us should work on loving our sisters and forgiving each other when necessary. I implore you to support each others businesses, events, plays, movies, books, and visions...this is the key. Stop striving for materialistic things that have limited or no value. Purchase property, homes and create our own businesses. It is important to have economic empowerment to build strong futures for ourselves as well as our community.

Finally, we must be seen and have a voice. If this means we have got to step out of our closets that we have lived in for so long...then so be it! We can't wait for the few **"OUT"** people of color to pave the way. There is unity, strength, and visibility in numbers as we have witnessed at the **MWM.** [This explains why the media can never seem to get an accurate count of large groups of Black people together in unity--- They refuse to give us **STRENGTH!**] It is essential that our community speak out against racism and prejudice against people who are lesbian [or gay]. Sure we are double minorities [as Black women] but imagine being triple minorities [as lesbians] with visibility and a voice! The possibilities are endless.

In closing, I want us all to spend this season of giving to look back on or mistakes. Then determine what changes will be made in the new year as it approaches us. Let **UNITY, LOVE** and **FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT** be the official focus for lesbian women of color in 1998. The new millennium will meet our community stronger, unified, and more visible than it has ever been.

One of the Million

SPECIAL EVENTS

NEW YORK

Women Drawing Women
A life drawing session for lesbians The first Saturday each month at The Center, 208 West 13th St., NYC - $5 per artist - bring own materials. Call Melissa Wolf for info. (718) 932-4525.

WorldBeat Jazz at the Guggenheim
Enjoy jazz and cocktails in the Frank Lloyd Wright Rotunda, Friday and Saturday nights 5-8pm. Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Fifth Ave. (At 88th St.). Info: (212) 423-3500

Mariana Romo-Carmona will be reading from her new novel "Living at Night"
November 5, 1997
A Different Light Bookstore
151 West 19th Street
New York, NY 212 989-4850

New York Lesbian/Gay Experimental Film/Video Festival
November 6-16, 1997
Contact: Mix '97, 341 Lafayette St. #169, New York, NY 10012. For a schedule of events call (212) 571-4242

Ex's: Letting them go/Ex's: Wanting them back
November 7, 1997 (6:30pm)
How many of us has had an ex-lover or partner that we just can't get rid of? How many of us have had an ex that we want back so badly? How does this relate to you? Let's get together and share our own experiences and find some solution. Sponsored by S.I.S.T.A.H. The Center, 208 West 13th Street. For more information call (212) 620-7310.

Lesbos Eat!
November 7, 1997 (7pm)
Come and enjoy good conversation and good food at one of New York's up and coming restaurants **Corn Bread Cafe**, that just so happens to be black lesbian owned. Contact Tiye at (908) 810-0957 or Lynore at (908) 572-4202 for more details.

AIDS Dance-a-thon, NYC
November 8, 1997
@ NYC Passenger Ship Terminal
AIDS Benefit sponsored by Gay Men's Health Crisis. 6,000+ mixed gay/straight attendees, $75+ pledges. Call (212) 807-9255 for more information.

All That "Mushy Stuff":
November 8, 1997 (2-5p)
Lesbians and Romance. Poetry reading and panel discussion for women. Is romance heaven or hell in our communities? Can it last? Is it all about sex? What's romantic for whom? We will explore the highs and lows, beginning with a poetry reading. Moderator: Candice Boyce. Readers/Panelists: publishers, **Colours Magazine**, on their relationship. Nelcia Clarence, on flirting; Cheryl Clarke, poet; Clare Coss, Editor, The Arc of Love: An Anthology of Lesbian Love Poems, psychotherapist, on couples, Maya Islas, poet; Jackie Stevens, political theorist, on personal ads. Co-sponsored by African Ancestral United for Societal Change and The Crystal Quilt, Inc. The Center, 208 West 13th Street. Wheelchair accessible. $10/$5 limited income. For more information call (212) 941-4994.

Puerto Rican and Hispanic Heritage and Culture Months
November 12, 1997 (5:30-7:30p)
Keynote speakers: Felipe Luciano, co-host of Good Day Street Talk; Correspondent for Fox TV's Good Day New York. Honorees: Carlos Benitez, "El Padrino de Queens"; Susana Torruella Leval; Director, El Museo del Barrio; Maritza F. Bolanos, Esq., Bolanos & Associates; President, New York Region, Hispanic National Bar Assoc.; Felipe Lopez, Former McDonald's High School All-American; John Wooden Award Finalist; Senior Guard, St. John's University's Men Basketball Team "Red Storm"; Suleika Cabrera Drinane, Founder and Executive Director, Institute for the Puerto Rican/Hispanic Elderly, Inc.; Jaime Manrique, Award-winning Poet and Novelist; Jimmy Sabater Gonzalez; Award winning Musician; Mabel Newbold, NYC Comptroller's Office, Bureau of Law & Adjustment. RSVP Office of Community Relations (212) 669-3089

A Night of Song
November 14, 1997
Featuring Nedra Johnson, singer/song writer & Rhythms of Aqua. Showtime 8:15pm; The Center, 208 West 13th Street. Wheelchair accessible. $7/$5 with flyer or advertisement. For more information contact Candice Boyce at (212) 620-7310.

Rally Against Racist Violence
November 15, 1997 (2p)
Expose the Cover-up of hate crimes! Neo-Nazis and racist skinheads have been active on Staten Island for the last two years. In recent months racist violence has increased dramatically. The Neo-Nazis and racist skinheads must be stopped now. Initiated by New York Workers Against Fascism. Endorsed by Staten Island Council for Peace and Justice, Ray Laforest, Haiti Mobilization for Immigrant Rights, Immigrant Workers Association, International Socialist Organization, Freedom Socialist party, Radical Women, Bolshevik Tendency, The Bread is Rising (artists' collective). For more information call (718) 983-9686 or (718) 259-9145

Conversations Among African American Women: Safety Though Unity
November 15, 1997 (2:30-5:30p)
Panel discussion for African American Women moderated by Julia Walker, Communications. Black women are under attack – at home, at work, in our communities and relationships. Panelist will discuss emotional, financial and spiritual means to protect ourselves. Panelists: Sandra Davenport, Financial Sales; Cathi Dean, Educator; Vanessa Marshall, CSW, spiritual counselor; Julie Spooner, Ph.D., clinical psychologist. Co-sponsored by The Crystal Quilt, Inc. and the Foundation for African American Women. Weeksville, 698 Bergan St. (Buffalo/Rochester) Bklyn. Wheelchair accessible. $10/$5 limited income. For information call (212) 799-0322.

NYACN presents Targeting the Job You Want
(3rd part of a three part series)
November 25, 1997
"Turning Interviews into Offers; Salary & Negotiation"
All seminars are at the L&GCSC 208 W 13th Street. Info: (212) 462-9255

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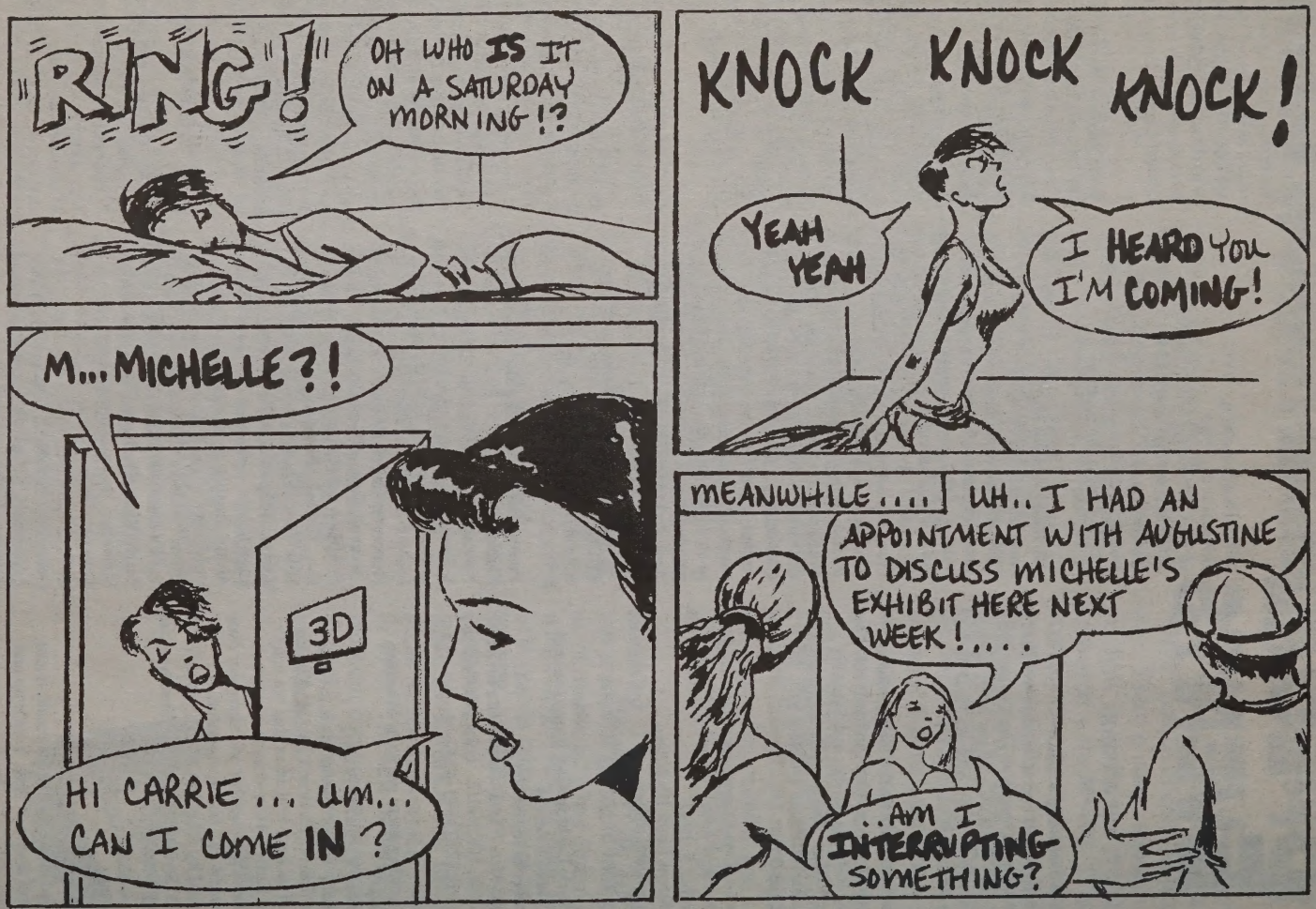
Girls Night Out!

By Toni Robinson


RING!
OH WHO IS IT ON A SATURDAY MORNING!?
KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK!
YEAH YEAH
I HEARD YOU I'M COMING!
M... MICHELLE?!
3D
HI CARRIE... UM... CAN I COME IN?
MEANWHILE....
UH.. I HAD AN APPOINTMENT WITH AUGUSTINE TO DISCUSS MICHELLE'S EXHIBIT HERE NEXT WEEK!....
..AM I INTERRUPTING SOMETHING?

Beyond Words Bookstore

A bookstore for progressive people of all colors with a decidedly queer attitude

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Gifts · & More!

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HER SHE BAR

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HAPPY HOUR
7-10:00 pm

HOSTED BY CHRYSTAL
DJ'S AND KAREOKI
Cover Only $5 B4 11:30
2 FOR 1 DRINKS & BUFFET

LATE NIGHT DJ'S
TRINI, JASON VASQUEZ
AND MARY MAC
From 10:30 pm - 4:30 am

THE NEW 40 BELOW
40 West 8th St.Bet. 6th Ave. & MacDougal
Greenwich Village 212-631-1093

Cover Only $6 B4 11:30 • $8 after

"A VERY FUNNY PLAY..." The Amsterdam News
"ABSOLUTELY HILARIOUS...." Venus Magazine

Thought of looking for love in the classifieds? Then you must see

The Personals

written and directed by Kimbley Gilchrist

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
The Alexander Room of
The G & L Community Center
208 West 13th Street, NYC
2 shows • 7pm & 9pm
Only $20

Wine & Cheese Reception
6:30pm & 8:30pm

Starring
Kimbley Gilchrist
Cheryl D. McClendon
Jane Gavin-Lewis
Frankie 'Lady Jasmine' James

For Reservations call
212-358-3778 or
WriteItRig@aol.com

Stage Manager- Ira L. Jeffries
A COMFORT ZONE PRODUCTION

"Nuts and Crackers"
December 13, 1997
A jazz and tap version.
Fredrick Comm. College Arts Center
7932 Opossumtown Pike
Frederick, MD
Tx/Info: (301) 846-2512

Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk
featuring **Savion Glover**
November 5-30, 1997
National Theatre
1321 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC
Tx/Info: (202) 628-6161

The Washington Ballet
January 27-February 1, 1998
These and other performances during the fall dance collection at the Joyce Theater.
175 Eighth Ave. at 19th Street
New York, NY
Info: (212) 242-0800

ANNENBERG CENTER ANNOUNCES 1997-98 SEASON
Dance Theatre of Harlem, Philip Glass. Information on the ANNENBERG CENTER 1997-98 SEASON is available at the Annenberg Center box office, 3680 Walnut Street, Philadelphia
Or call (215) 898-6791. Schools and Groups, call (215) 898-6683.

THEATER
(Ongoing)

David Alan Grier
in **"A Funny Thing happened on the Way to the Forum"** at the St. James Theatre, 246 W 44th St.
New York, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 239-6200

When Pigs Fly
by Howard Crabtree. A Gay Musical at the Douglas Fairbanks Theatre, 432 West 42nd St., NYC Tx/Info: (212) 239-6200

Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk
Ambassador Theatre, 219 West 49th St., NYC (212) 239-6200 or (800) 432-7250.

The Life
Barrymore Theater
243 West 47th St.
New York, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 239-6200

Ragtime
Ford Center for the Performing Arts, 42nd St. (bet. 7th & 8th Aves.)
New York, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 307-4100

Smokey Joe's Café
Virginia Theater, 245 West 52nd St., NYC, (212) 239-6200 or (800) 432-7250

Stomp
Orpheum Theatre, 2nd Ave. @ 8th St., NYC (212) 477-2477

(Limited Engagements)

"The Great Garlic Girls"
...Ladies but Gentlemen
Now thru November 29, 1997
at TATOU (Wed.-Sat.)
151 East 50th Street
New York, NY
Info: (212) 753-1144

"Why do Good Girls Like Bad Boys"
November 5-9, 1997
Roanoke Civic Center, VA
Tx/Info: (804) 267-8100
November 11-16,1997
Warner Theatre
1299 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC
Tx/Info: (202) 783-40000
November 25-30, 1997
Newark Symphony Hall
1020 Broad St., Newark, NJ
Info: (201) 507-8900

Dark CowGirls and Prairie Queens
November 7-16, 997
A remarkable play about the spirited dreams of seven black pioneer women and their inspired brand of heroism.
The New Victory Theater, 209 W. 42nd St., NYC., Tx/Info: (212) 382-4020.

Othello (African American cast)
November 11-January 4, 1997
Shakespeare Theatre
301 E. Capital St., SE
Washington, DC
Tx/Info: (202) 393-7200

Smokey Joe's Café
November 11-16, 1997
Carpenter Center
Richmond, VA
Tx/Info: (804) 262-8100
December 23-January 18, 1997
Kennedy Center Opera House
2700 F St. NW
Washington, DC
Tx/Info: (202) 467-4600

Ain't Misbehavin
December 5-14, 1997
Norfolk State University, VA
Tx/Info: (757) 671-8100

Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope
November 28-January 4, 1998
Cross Roads Theatre
7 Livingston Avenue
New Brunswick, NJ
Tx/Info: (732) 249-5560

Chicago
December 30-January 4, 1998
Landmark Theater
Richmond, VA
Tx/Info: (804) 262-8100

COMEDY

New York's Top African-American & Latino Comics
Every Friday (11p) & Sat. (12mn) @ the Comedy Club, 241 E 24th Street (bet. 2nd & 3rd Aves.)
Reserv/Info: (212) 696-LAFF

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MONEY ADVICE

by the Banker

Retirement Investing

I surveyed several friends last month about retirement investing and was shocked to find that many of them hadn't even given it a thought! I would guess this is as a result of associating "saving" with "painful"! Look ladies, we must make provisions for our retirement now to avoid the worry and stress of who or what will provide for us later.

Achieving a comfortable lifestyle in the golden years can be a daunting objective these days. However, the task is not insurmountable. Knowing how to invest your retirement savings will go a long way to helping you meet your goals. And understanding the impact of taxes on your entire investment portfolio is an important factor.

Most financial planners agree that the best investment approach is to maintain a diversified investment portfolio consistent with your time horizon, risk aversion level, need for growth verses income, plus any other relevant criteria. As long as a time horizon in excess of five years is anticipated, a diversified investment approach would include investment in four main asset categories: **cash, fixed income, stocks and hard assets** (which include real estate, precious metals, natural resources, collectibles, commodities, etc.).

Once a strategy has been adapted, taxation is going to drive the decision as to which investments should be sheltered in your retirement savings accounts, such as **Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs)** or employer-sponsored defined contribution plans. That's because the retirement account advantage is, ultimately, a tax benefit. Retirement account assets grow on a tax-deferred basis (not tax free). This means that whatever you eventually take out will be taxed at regular tax rates upon distribution (ignoring "after-tax" contributions or special lump-sum distribution treatment).

Investments that normally generate "tax advantaged" income lose this advantage when purchased for an IRA. Which investments are these? The following focus on the various asset classes helps sort out these investments:

Capital Gains Producing Equities: The advantages offered by investments that produce most of their return in the form of capital gains varies based on an investor's own tax situation. For example, a taxpayer in the 39.6% tax bracket will value long-term capital gains (maximum rate 28%) more than a taxpayer in a 15% or 28% bracket. However, both taxpayers benefit from the tax-deferred nature of capital gains when the stock is purchased and held for many years; this, in effect, is the same benefit provided by an IRA!

Alternatively, net capital losses realize when a "bad" investment is sold it can be used to offset ordinary income that might otherwise be taxed at a 39.6% regular tax rate [the maximum amount of non-capital gain (ordinary) income that can be offset each year is $3,000; unused amounts are carried forward to future years].

With these factors in mind, it is reasonable to argue that your taxable portfolio should favor equity-oriented assets (those producing capital gains and losses such as stocks and "hard assets"). Of course, the more frequent the capital gains produce (such as high turnover mutual funds), the more tax sheltering in an IRA makes sense.

Cash and Fixed Income: Two categories of assets, cash equivalents and fixed-income investments, generate ordinary taxable income each year. To avoid tax on annual interest and dividend income, an investor can choose tax-free municipal fixed-income securities or funds; or shelter higher-paying taxable bonds/bond funds in a retirement account. A buy-and-hold fixed-income strategy eliminates capital gains and losses. Only interest income, fully taxable at top marginal rates of interest, the argument is strong for sheltering this income in your retirement account.

One might argue that "cash equivalents" should be kept outside the retirement account to the extent that the cash is maintained to provide liquidity, and/or an emergency fund. If this is true for you, then certainly you would not want to designate retirement accounts to hold your cash equivalents, since it can be difficult and costly to withdraw funds from these accounts. Early withdrawals prior to age 59 1/2 may be subject to a 10% penalty tax. A short-term spending fund (less than five-year time horizon) and/or a liquidity fund should be established separately to meet these needs.

However, cash equivalents are an investable asset class that can be used to moderate other higher risk investments. This being the case, there is no reason to keep cash equivalents outside the protection of a retirement account except the belief that the tax benefit of doing so is minimal. With interest rates generating as little taxable income as they are today, and with a stock market that continues to produce significantly greater gains, it is difficult to justify using limited retirement account benefits. However, as interest rates change, and markets hit their down cycles, the tax benefits of such a strategy may change.

Hard Assets: Hard assets present a variety of concerns. Physical ownership of most tangible personal property, including precious metals, creates special tax problems. It can be difficult to diversify if you own a particular asset directly, and tax rules will not permit the direct ownership of most "hard assets" inside retirement accounts.

Mutual funds provide a diversified alternative for participating in commercial real estate, precious metals and natural resources ventures whose values will fluctuate depending on the prices of the underlying commodity. Whether or not these are better held within a retirement account requires a careful study of the type, frequency and amount of taxable income being generated.

Certain types of securities already have tax advantages built into them, and these should therefore, not be held in a retirement account regardless of your tax

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Kiddie Korner

Computer Edutainment Workshop for Kids
47 W 34th St. Suite 1023, NYC.
Comfortable classes - 1 student per computer - 10 computer per class - 6 weeks workshop. 1st-6th Graders, Sat. 10:30a-11:30p; 7th -12th Graders, Sun 11:45a-1:45p; High School Students, Sun 2p-5p; Parent/Child Workshop (6wks) Sat. 2-4p. For information call (212) 268-0915.

Applause Theatrical Workshops
The musical theater class that's a real Off-Broadway experience. Learn hip-hop dance, jazz, singing, acting and more. For ages 10-17. (212) 439-9050

Sony Wonder Technology Lab
550 Madison Ave. @ 56th St., NYC. Four floors of interactive fun, where visitors of all ages can freely explore hands on, multimedia exhibits on communications technology. They can surf the Internet at Cyberplay on-line, edit a music video, assist a director with an ultra-sound examination and view a high definition film in the HD Theater. Free daily. (212) 833-8100

Puzzles & Games
Tuesdays; 4-5pm; Toddler Program 10:30am. Movies - Fridays; 4pm. Brooklyn Heights Branch Public Library, 280 Cadman Plaza West. Phone (718) 722-3353.

Children's Chorale Ensemble
Ages 7/up. Registration now for kids who love to sing. Classes Thurs. 4:15 to 5:30pm. Fee $30 members: $50 non-members. Phone (718) 648-7703 for more info. Kings Bay YM-YWHA, 3495 Nostrand Ave.

Doctor Is In
The "Seuss!" Exhibit allows visitors to enter the wacky world of the Cat in the Hat with an interactive twist. "Water-whirl" offers the chance to investigate the science and art of water. Both at the Children's Museum of Manhattan, 212 W 83rd St., NYC

Museum Kid Picks
Now through November
Adults are not the only ones who enjoy art. Here's a chance for children to see arms and armor from around the world. These objects are decorated with gods, saints and spirits. They also include words and symbols that were religious or represented good fortune. Call (212) 535-7710. Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 5th Ave. at 82nd Street

Baseball in Puerto Rico
December 27-January 5, 1998
The Robert Clemente All-Stars are looking for baseball players, ages 13-19, who are interested in traveling to PR to compete against some of the world's best amateur teams. Call (800) 723-6398.

Kidnap-Proof Your Child
The Fear Not Foundation
P.O. Box 403
Syracuse, NY 13215
Lee Crull, a former elite commando, "black bag" operative and 63-year-old grandfather, decided to use his life experiences and training to help parents teach their children how to defend themselves. Kids will learn to escape if they are grabbed by the wrist, shoulders or neck or if they are lifted. Parents will learn how to teach safety, protect their home, and hire baby-sitters. For free information including the "10 Golden Rules for Safety-The Quick Kids Version," send self-addressed stamped enveloped to the above address.

High 5 - Tickets to the Arts**
$5 Tickets to theater, music, dance, art & film. Junior and senior high school students can buy High 5 tickets by showing their student ID at any ticketmaster location. They can choose from a selection of the best arts events in New York. For free catalog of High 5 events or information call Hi5-TKTS. Website:WWW.HIGH5TIX.COM

Laserwarp
Using computer graphics and animation, Dr. Nova leads two young characters on an IMAX journey through history---including the big bang and the age of dinosaurs. American Museum of Natural History at 77th-88th St. & Central Park West. Info: (212) 769-5100.

Toyland
Now thru November 21, 1997
The Nutcracker
November 28-January 4, 1998
The Puppet Co. Playhouse
Baltimore, MD
Tx/Info: (301) 320-6668

Adventures of Peter Rabbit
Nov. 1, 2, 8 & 9, 1997
Phantom of the Opera
Nov. 15, 16, 22 & 23, 1997
The Secret Garden
Nov. 29, 30 & Dec. 6, 1997
@ Theatre Works USA
Promenade Theatre
Broadway & 76th Street, NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 627-7373

The Lion King
Now thru December 31, 1997
New Amsterdam Theatre
214 W. 42nd St., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

Big Apple Circus
Now thru January 11, 1998
Damrosh Park
B'way & W. 63rd St., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

The Nightingale
Now thru November 9, 1997
Hans Christian Andersen's magical tale beautifully retold through dance and narration. Kennedy Center
F St. & New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC., Tx/Info: (202) 467-4600

Walt Disney's World on Ice Aladdin
Now thru November 2, 1997
Stabler Arena - Lehigh University
Allentown, PA
Tx/Info: (215) 336-2000

Sesame Street Live
Now thru November 2, 1997
"Elmo's Coloring Book"
Westchester County Center
White Plains, NY
Tx/Info: (914) 454-3388
November 12-16, 1997
"Let's Play School"
Playhouse Theatre
Wilmington, DE
Tx/Info: (302) 984-2000
December 13 & 14, 1997
"1 2 3 Imagine"
Vee Corporation
Erie, PA
Tx/Info: (814) 456-7070

Holiday Store Window Displays

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Give Colours For The Holidays

Give a 1 year subscription to a friend and you will get 1 complimentary issue added to your existing subscription and you both will receive a free gift. Your gift subscription will be sent with a card with your name attached. For two or more guest subscriptions you will receive a free Colours T-shirt.

You are cordially invited to a
"A Red Hot Night of Jazz and R&B"
Presented by
Wimmin's International Production
A
Champagne and Wine Affair
At
The Exclusive Puck Building's Skylight Ballroom
Saturday, November 29, 1997
6P.M. til 1 A.M.
295 Lafayette Street
Enjoy the soothing sound of a Live Band
Featuring recording artist
"Artist Annette Taylor"
Her melodic words of poetry
View enchanting works of art
Special guest DJ
Dine on a Sumptuous Three Course Buffet
(All Beverages Included)

"A Night of Elegance You Won't Forget"

Admission: $60
For further information & tickets call:
(212) 330-7069
Hosts: Alisha, Barbara, Jill, Karen, Manya, Pat, Ronnie, Sheron and Sophia
A Portion of proceeds will be donated to the
***********Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation*********

Special Events

How to Flirt: Getting what you want, by using what you got!
Do you know how to flirt? Would you like to learn? Let's get together and share some ideas on how to flirt successfully, gracefully, and with confidence. Sponsored by S.I.S.T.A.H. The Center, 208 West 13th Street. For more information call (212) 620-7310.

Lavender Light
November 22, 1997
Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ Campus. For further information call (212) 714-7072
December 3, 1997
The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine
Amsterdam Avenue and 112th St. For further information call (212) 662-2133.

"The Personals"
December 6, 1997
"A very funny play…" "Absolutely Hilarious…" Ever thought of looking for love in the classifieds? Then you must see… "The Personals" written and directed by Kimberly Gilchrist. In the Alexander Room of The G & L Center. 208 W. 13th St., NYC. Shows at 7pm & 9pm. For reservations call (212) 358-3778.

Talent Showcase & Networking Party
Sunday, December 7, 1997
This monthly event is an opportunity to network and rub elbows with the women of our community who are handling their business. Meet lawyers, doctors, financial planners, caterers, photographers, artists, promoters, DJ's and many others. All this while being entertained by the talented singers, comedians, poets, etc… in our community. For more information or to show your work call (718) 783-6642. Palm Court Lounge (between Hudson & Flatbush) in Brooklyn, NY. [Behind Forgoodness Steaks & across from Juniors Restaurant]. Event from 6pm-11pm. A **Colours Magazine** sponsored event!

Kwaanza Expo
December 19-22, 1997
Support hundreds of Black business owners by shopping at the only event that caters specially to and for our community. Event is at the Jacob Javits Center, 655 W. 34th St. @ 11th Ave., NYC. For information call (212) 216-2000.

NEW JERSEY

The 1997 New Jersey Gay & Lesbian Winter Street Fair
December 7, 1997
12n-5pm at Douglass College Center (Treyes Hall). Indoors. Rain or Shine! For further information call the Pride Center at (732) 549-2232.

Financial Planning
November 18, 1997 (7pm)
Whether you have a little extra money, or you need a little help budgeting your funds, come out and receive the latest information pertaining to all of your

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HOMOPHOBIA IN WOMEN'S SPORTS

By
Donna A. Lopiano
Executive Director
Women's Sports Foundation

It is not uncommon for the following circumstances to be encountered in women's sports:

.....A coach suggests to a recruit that the coach of the team at another school she is considering is a lesbian

.....A candidate for a coaching position is asked whether she is single or married (despite the fact that such a question is not legal) and, if single, is assumed to be a lesbian and is not considered for employment

.....Women who play on varsity teams are labeled as "lesbians"

.....Prospective student athletes are deterred from choosing a particular school because someone suggests there are lesbians on the team on which they would play

Use of society's fear of homosexuality as one of the only tools left to keep young women from playing sports or from choosing to play for certain coaches. Coaches who want an "edge" in recruiting and do not think that negative recruiting is unethical, will use a true or untrue label, like "homosexual", against another coach. Those who feel threatened by Title IX, the federal law guaranteeing women equal opportunity in sports, are using fear of exposing women coaches as lesbians to deter them from talking about unequal treatment of female athletes.

There are gays and lesbians in every population so it would be not be surprising to learn there are lesbian members of women's athletics teams, or any other college team or group of people for that matter. What is surprising is that similar tactics are not used to scare boys away from playing sports.

We must all work to overcome the perpetuation of homophobia -- the fear of homosexuality. We cannot allow its use as a powerful tool to scare both homosexual and heterosexual women away from taking part in sports. By implying or stating outright that women who play sports, or women who play sports at a particular school, are lesbian, you can ensure that most women, straight or lesbian, will avoid that school or avoid sports entirely. As a result, women deny themselves opportunities that may indeed be positive and healthy experiences.

The presence or absence of gays and lesbians is not the issue. Any label applied to an entire group wrongly stereotypes every member of the group and is patently unethical. All football players are not dumb. All female athletes are not lesbians. All male dancers, artists and designers are not gay.

The bottom line is that we are educated people who must understand how homophobia is "used" by those who would like to destroy the reputation of a program or school or coach or to remove the opportunity to play or work. What is important is that we focus on people's strengths rather than their weaknesses and respect all people who are honest and who, by their actions and words, respect the rights of others.

It is also important for us to distinguish between homophobia and sexual harassment. We cannot and should not discriminate on the basis of sexual preference in the provision of any educational program or activity. Conversely we must oppose and punish sexual harassment at all times.

Any male or female student, whether they participate in athletics or not should not be subject to unwanted sexual advances -- from a member of either sex. In fact, the possibility of being propositioned by a lesbian student-athlete is not the only uncomfortable situation that female student-athletes may face. Sexual harassment by male students or male student-athletes are other situations that occur even more frequently to female students. Sexual harassment or even sexual assault by male coaches of female student-athletes is a significant problem in school and open amateur sport settings across the country that often goes unreported.

Rather than focus on the presence or absence of lesbians, perhaps parents and coaches should focus on helping young women student-athletes to know that they can turn down any unwanted advances and should not put up with sexual harassment from any source -- male or female.

The Women's Sports Foundation is particularly concerned with this issue because homophobia may keep girls and women away from the positive benefits of sports. Sports are too important to the physical, psychological and sociological well-being of our children to have it only benefit our sons. Girls and women who play sports have more confidence, higher levels of self esteem, stronger self images and lower levels of depression. High school girls who play sports are less likely to be involved in an unwanted pregnancy, less likely to be involved in drugs and more

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MUSICAL NOTES

NEW YORK

Rachelle Ferrell
October 28-Nov. 2, 1997
Blue Note
131 W 3rd Street, NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 475-8592

The Rippingtons, Russ Freeman & Gato Barbieri
November 7, 1997
Beacon Theater
2142 Broadway @ 74th St.
Tx/Info: (212) 496-7070

Roberta Flack
November 11-16, 1997
Blue Note
131 W 3rd Street, NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 475-8592

WBLS Holiday Jam hosted by **Mariah Carey** featuring **Faith Evans, K-C & Jo Jo**
November 13, 1997
Madison Square Garden
34th St. & 7th Ave., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

Will Downing
November 21, 1997
Beacon Theater
2142 Broadway @ 74th St.
Tx/Info: (212) 496-7070
November 26, 1997
& Regina Bell
Westbury Music Fair
960 Brush Hollow Road
Long Island, NY
Tx/Info: (516) 888-9000

Sweet Honey in the Rock
November 22, 997
Carnegie Hall
57th St. & 7th Ave., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 247-7800

Cassandra Wilson Sings Miles
December 4 & 6, 1997
Alice Tully Hall @
Lincoln Center
65th Street & Broadway
New York, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 875-5600

NEW JERSEY

Regina Bell & Pieces
November 8, 1997
Terrace Room
1020 Broad St.
Newark, NJ
Tx/Info: (201) 507-8900

Freddie Jackson
November 21, 1997
Club Bene
S. Amboy, NJ
Tx/Info: (201) 507-8900

Gladys Knight
November 26-30, 1997
Ceasars Atlantic City, NJ
Tx/Info: (800) 736-1420

Luther Vandross
December 27-31, 1997
Ceasars Atlantic City, NJ
Tx/Info: (800) 736-1420

PENNSYLVANIA

(see Multiple States)

VIRGINIA

Nancy Wilson
November 8, 1997
Wilder Perf. Arts Center
Norfolk, VA
Tx/Info: (757) 671-8100

Patty Labelle
December 11, 1997
Richmond Landmark Theater, VA
Tx/Info: (804) 262-8100

MULTIPLE STATES

Puff Daddy & the Family World Tour
November 7, 1997
Pepsi Arena
Albany, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171
November 29, 1997
Feld Entertainment Corestates Center
Philadelphia, PA
Tx/Info: (215) 336-2000
November 30, 1997
Hartford Civic Center
Hartford, CT
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171
December 1 & 3, 1997
Madison Square Garden
34th St. @ 7th Ave., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171
December 3, 1997
Nassau Coliseum
Long Island, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

En Vogue
November 7 & 9, 1997
Atlantic City Hilton, NJ
Tx/Info: (800) 736-1420
November 8, 1997
Benedum Center
Pittsburgh, PA
Tx/Info: (412) 323-1919

Vanessa Williams
November 19, 1997
Westbury Music Fair
960 Brush Hollow Rd
Long Island, NY
Tx/Info: (516) 888-8900
November 21 & 22, 1997
Ceasars Atlantic City, NJ
Tx/Info: (800) 736-1420

Take 6 Christmas Concert
December 13, 1997
Walt Whitman College
Campus Rd. & Hillel Pl.
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171
December 16, 1997
The Count Basie Theatre
99 Monmouth St.
Redbank, NJ
Tx/Info: (201) 507-8900

MUSIC FESTIVALS

Lake of the Ozarks Jazz Festival
November 5-9, 1997
Marina Bay Resort Complex
Osage Beach, MO
Tx: (888) 320-5200
Info: (800) FUN-LAKE

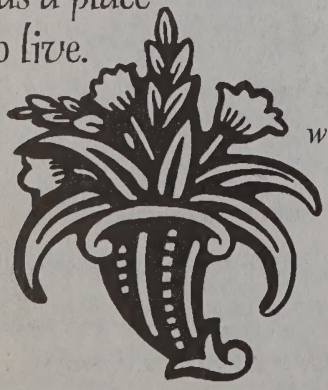
Caribe Carnival Festival
(Reggae & World Music)
November 7-9, 1997
N. Bank River Walk Park
Jacksonville, FL
Info: (904) 260-3843

M.L.K Zydeco Extravaganza/ Festival
January 18, 1998
Lake Charles, LA
Tx: (318) 491-9955
Info: (800) 456-7952

Poet's Corner

Untitled

As we catch one another's eyes...
cinnamon bodies close
As the scorching wetness
draws the heat within...
My loins are faithfully wrapped
around you
as your fingers wrestle inside of me...
My lips promise you goodness
and no mercy
And you answer my pelvis
with a selfish thrust...
Again our eyes meet
and we smile,
for our moment
has a place
to live.



written by "Brahmz"
8/19/97

Database and List Management

Collecting Data
Mailing List
Contact List
Printing
Mailouts

(212) 560-2337

A Note From Lisa Smith of Leading Lady Productions

Thanks for all the great feed back on my interview that ran in October's issue of Colours. I would like to take this opporutnity to say that in that interview I said I was looking for new dj's. This is true however, many assumed I was planning to get rid of my present dj's. NO I AM NOT! Although I am looking for new dj's I have no intentions of dismissing the ones I use know.

Homophobia ...(Cont'd)

likely to graduate from high school. Sport is where boys have traditionally learned about teamwork, goal-setting and the pursuit of excellence in performance -- critical skills necessary for success in a workplace where both our sons and daughters need an equal chance to excel.

As little as two hours of exercise a week reduces a teenage girls risk of breast cancer, a disease that will afflict one out of every eight American women. Women who play sports also reduce their risks of heart disease. We need only look at generations of women who were denied the opportunity to play sports and discouraged from engaging lifestyles where they were active and strong -- our mothers and grandmothers -- to see what happens when women are discouraged from participating in sports. One out of every two women over the age of 60 are suffering from osteoporosis. Weight-bearing exercise lays down bone mass that can prevent osteoporosis.

Sport is one of the most important socio-cultural learning environments in which our children participate. We cannot tolerate individuals or the media instilling unwarranted fears in parents and their daughters that result in women choosing not to play sports.

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Note: Due to the overwhelming response from our readers, we have received several calls that the Colours distributors quickly run out of issues. Although we try to replenish the supply as often as possible, the best way to guarantee that you'll get your issue is to subscribe!! Thanks for your support!

babe*

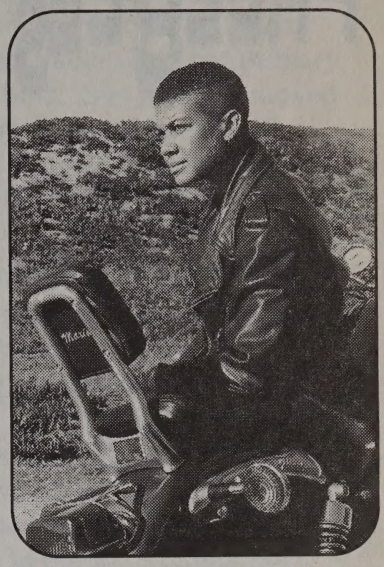

Photo by Phyllis Christopher

* babe-finder

for a **FREE** catalog
of lesbian & gay travel guides.
call **1-800-462-6654**
or surf us at **http://www.damron.com**

FREEBEES

Free HIV Testing
(by appointment) @ The Elizabeth Taylor Medical Center - 1701 14th St. NW, Washington, DC or The Max Robinson Center of Whitman-Walker Clinic, 2001 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE, Washington, DC. Info: (202) 332- EXAM

Vaccinate!
The Vaccines for Children program (VFC) supplies doctors in private and public health care facilities with free vaccines for children under 19 who are either enrolled in Medicaid, uninsured, under-insured or with insurance that does not cover immunizations, or Native Americans. Vaccinations are available at Cabrini East Village (97 E. 4th St., 212-979-3200) and Cabrini Haven Plaza (East 12th Street at Avenue C, 212-677-2280).

Breast Cancer Screening
(for women 40+)
* Breast Examination of Harlem (212) 864-0600
* St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center - Amsterdam Avenue at 114th Street
Thursdays (9am-1pm)
*Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center
Fort Washington Avenue at 168th Street
Tuesdays (8a-12n). Call (212) 523-4484

Free Depression Treatment
New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center (212) 821-0772

Incest & Rape Survivors Treatment
Payne Whitney Clinic/New York Hospital The Clinic's Trauma Recovery Service provides specialized psychological assessment and treatment for survivors of incest and rape. Free treatment for those who qualify and sliding scale fee also available. (212) 821-0774

Sony Wonder Technology Lab
550 Madison Ave. @ 56th St., NYC
Four floors of interactive fun, where visitors of all ages can freely explore hands on, multimedia exhibits on communications technology. They can surf the Internet at cyberplay online, edit a music video, assist a director with an ultra-sound examination and view a high definition film in the HD theater. Free daily. (212) 833-8100.

Creative Writing Classes
St. Charles Jubilee Center at 55 Pierrepont St. - On Fridays 3-4:30p. Info: (718) 855-0326

The Bronx Museum of the Arts
1040 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY.
Free admission Wednesdays from 3p-9p.
Info: (212) 681-6000

The Brooklyn Botanical Gardens
Free admission Tuesdays. Stroll the grounds, walk through rooms of tropical rain forests and desert climates, see the Japanese garden and pond and learn about trees from Brooklyn and beyond. 1000 Washington Ave. at Eastern Parkway.

New York Botanical Gardens
200th St. and Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY. Sharing Bronx Park with the Bronx Zoo, this in one of the foremost gardens in the world. This season there are many events to celebrate the reopening after extensive renovations of the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. Garden also offers family festivals and special events for children. Free Wednesdays. For information call (718) 817-8500.

Queens Botanical Garden
43-50 Main Street (at Dahlia Ave.), Flushing, NY. This 38-acre garden was created to preserve the beautiful flora of the 1939 World's Fair. Its beautiful rose gardens and special gardening demonstrations make this a great spot in summer. For information call (718) 886-3800.

Staten Island Botanical Garden
1000 Richmond Terrace at the Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island, NY. Within the Snug Harbor Cultural Center sits a beautiful set of gardens. Walk through the green house and see exotic flowers in boom or enjoy an evening on its cool lawns. For information call (718) 273-8200.

Gardens at Battery Park City
Twenty-four beautiful acres of gardens and park are located at the tip of Manhattan and are part of the residential and commercial area call Battery Park City, all of which is constructed on the landfill created in the building of the World Trade Center. Call (212) 267-9700.

Con Edison Energy Museum
Free Tuesdays through Saturdays between 9a-5p. Learn the history of electricity and of the ways it changed New York City from 1882 to the nuclear age. Walk under a simulated NYC Street! At 145 East 14th Street, NYC. Info: (212) 460-6244.

Brazilian Samba Show
Free before 9p every Saturday at S.O.B's 204 Varick Street @ Houston. Info: (212) 243-4940.

Community Tai Chi Class
(for the L& G Community) at Malcolm X Park, NW @ 16th St. & Euclid St. Contact George for time. (202) 332-7570

The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC
As part of its Performing Arts for Everyone initiative, the Kennedy Center presents free performances every day of the year (except Christmas) on its Millennium Stage in the Grand Foyer. These performances of music, dance, and theater begin at 6 p.m. (except as noted) and last about one hour; they feature artists and ensembles from the Washington area and around the world. No tickets are ever required; all performers and programs are subject to change without notice. Info (202) 467-4600 or toll-free (800) 444-1324.

Central Park Moonlight Ride
December 26, 1997
Columbus Circle @ 59th St.
NYC free event!
Info: (212) 802-8222

Beauty of the Month

Photo by Stan Williams

Paula Chin

Age: 28
Height: 5'6"
Weight: 125lbs
Eyes: Dk Brown
Hair: Black
Status: Single
Hobbies: Horseback riding, skiing, dining out, shopping, and going to the comedy club.

She is the daughter of a St. Thomas mother and Chinese father...the true epitome of a "woman of color." Though born in Brooklyn, Paula spent her primary years living in China. She recently moved from Queens to Nanuet in hope of providing a well structured environment for her nine and four year old sons.

This diverse woman holds a cosmetology license, a BS degree in education from Medgar Evers College and presently makes her living modeling while pursuing a singing career. Paula can be found on the pages of several magazines such as *Seventeen, Essence, Black Hair, Vogue*, and *Colours*. She has done modeling for Anna Sui (while in Paris), Tommy Girl, and Espirit. Her goal is to become a supermodel, an award winning entertainer and eventually owning her own modeling agency.

"I want people to know that I am definitely not a gold digger...I'm just a sweet, hard working woman [and a BITCH only when necessary] trying to fulfill her aspirations".

Ms. Chin believes that the Black community should be more accepting of their lesbian sisters. "We need to redirect these aggressions towards those who wish the downfall of our community through division. When the ignorant see us...they see BLACK...not lesbian. We too should see Black...a unified, strong, powerful, respected, diverse community of people of color!"

Paula Chin
Photo by Stan Williams

NEWS REVIEW

Top Story**

On October 25, 1997 approximately two million women visited Philadelphia, PA for the **Million Women March. The event was graced by respected women of color such as Sister Soldier, Jada Pinket, Faith Evans, Rep. Maxine Waters and Winnie Mandela. The purpose was to encourage women of color to educate themselves in order to raise stronger families. The message also included sisterly love, respect of self & each other, and most of all unity. News coverage of the **MWM** was poor all over the US with minimal coverage except in Pennsylvania (which had coverage all day). CSPAN did show the **MWM** Sunday (10/26) evening in its entirety. Nevertheless, it was a historic event that will strengthen the lives of so many.

Veteran of the federal bench, Judge William A. Norris urged President Bill Clinton in the strongest possible terms to "admit his mistake of judgment" regarding the U.S. military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy for gay and lesbian servicemembers. Norris said that while race and gender discrimination remain "grave social problems in America...they are no longer acceptable as official governmental policy. Regrettably, however, it continues to be acceptable for the government and government officials to promote hatred, fear and intolerance against gay men and lesbians," a policy which "demands that gays and lesbians live a lie if they wish to serve in the military, and fight and die for their country....

A Pennsylvania woman who left her heterosexual marriage and became involved in a lesbian relationship is trying to collect spousal support from her ex-husband, which was originally awarded by a court, but was reversed in an appeal by the former husband. At issue is whether or not lesbian sex constitutes adultery, which, under the state's no-fault divorce laws, is one of the reasons spousal support can be denied. The divorce attorney for the unnamed 27-year-old woman, citing "sexual intercourse" in several dictionary definitions of adultery, says that "any definition of sexual intercourse includes penile penetration" -- a sexual impossibility between two women. Therefore, reasons that adultery cannot be used as grounds for the denial of spousal support in this case. "Cunnilingus does not involve penetration," she argues in her brief, "and surely manual penetration is not intended or all Pennsylvania gynecologists would function in a setting of multiple and ongoing adulterous liaisons!" She also notes that the law already assigns second-class status to lesbian and gay relationships because it prevents them from legalizing those relationships in marriage, and that it's unfair to deny gays and lesbians the right to marry on the one hand, but to require that those relationships be subject to the same marriage and divorce laws as heterosexual couples on the other. "This is definitely an emerging issue," she said.

Sandra Gillis, Executive Director of PFLAG is stepping down, according to a press release issued last month. Despite reports earlier this year of internal dissent and what have been characterized as "dysfunctional relationships" between the national PFLAG office and its local chapters, PFLAG Board Chairperson Nancy Mcdonald is quoted saying, "We were very pleased with her leadership and are sad to see her go." Gillis' accomplishments include tripling the PFLAG membership to 70,000 households and expanding the grassroots network to 400-plus chapters serving communities in all 50 states, Washington, DC and eleven countries." McDonald went on to note that, "When Gillis took over, PFLAG was within two weeks of closing its doors because of financial problems," and cited a growth in PFLAG revenue from $700,000 in late 1992 to more than $1.7 million at the end of September 1997.

The Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD) has ruled that a woman who was ordered off a bus and told to stop hugging and kissing her female lover suffered "emotional distress," and was entitled to $42,000 in compensation. MCAD hearing officer Charles E. Walker, Jr. ruled that the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, as well as Hampshire County Transit, the company it contracted with to operate the bus route, must pay Joane Rome $30,000, plus accrued annual interest of 12% from the date she filed her complaint about the incident, which occurred on January 17, 1994. Rome was ordered to stop kissing and hugging her lover because "there are little kids in there. You can't do that in front of families." Rome asked why the physical expressions of affection she was engaged in with her lover were unacceptable when a heterosexual couple on the bus was doing the same thing, but the bus driver claimed to have not seen the other couple.

"Kiss and tell book," is the autobiography of openly-gay pop music superstar Elton John. According to media accounts, at least two major British publishers were engaged in a bidding war late last

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HEALTH WATCH

The buzz is in the air that lesbians in committed relationships are looking to start families. It has been the topic of many discussions among my friends as their biological clocks are ticking... The options today are many and as doctors are becoming aware and accepting of lesbian relationships, they are willing to provide these services at no charge by letting the insurance companies pick up the bills. This is becoming big business for physicians as lesbians are seeking out their family options.

Many lesbians are seeking to become pregnant as opposed to the long tedious process of adoption. The oldest, most economic, and least practical method for the average lesbian is intercourse with a man....YUCK!!!! Let's not go there.... The most common method is artificial insemination. In this procedure, a hollow, flexible instrument (catheter) --- is used to place the donor's semen into the woman's uterus or vaginal canal. All inseminations are performed around the time the woman should be ovulating, either naturally or after priming with a fertility drug.

The semen may be from the woman's husband ("artificial insemination-husband" or AIH) or from an anonymous donor ("artificial insemination-donor" or AID). In AIH fresh semen is generally used as a rule, but because of concerns about AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections, FDA, the Centers for Disease Control, and the American Fertility Society now recommends that anonymous donor semen be frozen for at least 180 days before use. The delay allows the donor semen to be retested for possible infection. It is encouraged that you check out the sperm bank thoroughly for its disease testing procedures.

Some women become pregnant with only one insemination. (The average cost of each insemination ranges from $85 - $250 depending on the source.) More often, repeat inseminations over the course of four to five menstrual cycles are required. There are women who after a year or more of periodic insemination still do not conceive. Depending on the nature of the couple's infertility, studies show success rates between 50 and 65 percent.

Another option for the fertility impaired is In Vitro Fertilization (IVF), made famous by the birth in England in 1978 of Louise Brown, the world's first "test tube" baby. IVF is an option when various other treatments have failed or are inappropriate. It can be used in women who have a uterus and at least one ovary, but whose fallopian tubes are damaged, missing, or diseased.

The woman is prepared for this procedure with fertility drugs that ready several of her eggs for fertilization and the lining of her uterus to support a pregnancy. The eggs are then taken from her by one of several methods and placed in a laboratory dish where they are incubated with sperm for about 18 hours. Assuming that some are fertilized and continue to develop normally for two days or so, one or more (as a kind of insurance policy it is usually several) are transferred by instrument into the woman's uterus. If at least one implants there within about two weeks, the woman is pregnant.

As with other treatments, couples undergoing IVF should not count their chickens before they hatch. Studies show that women with one or more cycles of IVF--- only 15.9% become pregnant and just 10.2% deliver a living infant.

Some Other Techniques that Require the use of Fertility Drugs:

1. Gamete Intrafallopian Transfer (GIFT): Similar to IVF except that sperm and eggs are collected and immediately inserted into one or both fallopian tubes, where conception occurs. [Success rates are similar to those of IVF.]

2. Tubal Ovum Transfer: The woman's eggs are retrieved and put into the fallopian tube close to where it opens into the uterus. [The couple then has intercourse or the woman is artificially inseminated.]

3. Embryo Lavage: A fertile female donor provides the eggs. At the proper time in her menstrual cycle, she is artificially inseminated with the would-be father's sperm. [If the donor conceives, the early embryo is washed out of her reproductive track and transferred to the uterus or a fallopian tube of the woman who is to bear the child.]

4. Surrogate Motherhood: A healthy, fertile woman agrees to be artificially inseminated and also agree to let the infertile couple adopt the baby. [This is an option for women who do not respond to ovulation induction therapies or who have no ovaries or lack of a uterus. It also may be an option for those for whom pregnancy might be life threatening or have good reason to worry that they might transmit a serious genetic disorder to the child.]

Hopefully, infertility is not a problem for you---but if it is---your options are listed above. For those of you who are not infertile, good luck selecting the right sperm or sperm donor. Adoption can still be an option (whether the woman is fertile or not). Know that it can be a long waiting process and agencies are not cooperative with lesbians or gays who try to adopt. These agencies will advise that we are not eligible for adoption because adoption is open to couples or single parents...[obviously lesbians are neither!!!]. You may want to keep this information hush hush until the process is complete.

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'97-'98 HOLIDAY EVENTS

New York

Holiday Store Window Displays
November-January 1998
Saks Fifth Avenue at 50th Street; Macy's, Herald Square, 34th Street and Broadway; Bloomingdale's, Lexington at 59th Street; Lord & Taylor at 39th Street and 5th Avenue; Barney's uptown, Madison Avenue at 61st Street; Barney's downtown, 7th Avenue at 17th Street; and other locations on 5th Avenue.

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
November 27, 1997
Macy's presents its annual Thanksgiving Day Parade along 34th St., NYC.

Kwaanza Expo
December 19-22, 1997
Support hundreds of Black business owners by shopping at the only event that caters specially to and for our community. Event is at the Jacob Javits Center, 655 W. 34th St. @ 11th Ave., NYC. For information call (212) 216-2000.

New Jersey

Kwaanza Celebration
December 19, 1997 (7p)
Come and celebrate this non-religious African American holiday with your AALU Family. Enjoy reading, good food and music. Please bring a dish (enough to share) or $4.00. Contact Lynore at (908) 572-4202.

Pennsylvania

Thanksgiving Day Parade
November 27, 1997
A Philadelphia tradition ushers in the Christmas shopping season. Begins at 20th and Market and ends at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, 26th and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. For information call (215) 581-4529

A Gardener's Christmas
November 27-30, 1997
Longwood Gardens displays more than 2,000 poinsettias until Jan. 4, 1998. Holiday festivities include evening concerts and outdoor lighting and fountain displays. Longwood Gardens is 30 mi/48 km southwest of Philadelphia in Kennett Square. For information (610) 388-1000.

Candlelight Home Tours
December 4-7 & 10, 1997
Candlelight tours of colonial mansions in Fairmount Park. Reservations required. The homes are decorated throughout December. 52nd and Parkside Avenues, (215) 684-7926 or (215) 684-7922

Philadelphia Loves Holidays
Throughout December, 1997
More than 140 lighted trees grace the city, which celebrates the season with the Market Street East Festival, the Musical Christmas Tree at the Gallery, the light show and concert on the Grand Organ at Hecht's Department Store and more. Various venues. For information, call (215) 925-7162 or (800) 225-5745.

New Year's Celebration
December 31, 1997
Fireworks, music and the lights of the Benjamin Franklin Bridge. Free admission. Great Plaza at Penn's Landing, (215) 636-1666.

Mummer's Parade
January 1, 1998
Famous New Year's Day Parade of 30,000 spectacularly costumed Mummers (string bands, comic and fancies) doing their traditional Mummer's strut. Broad Street to City Hall, (215) 336-3050.

Martin Luther King Day Observance
January 20, 1997
Ceremonies and special events held throughout the city. For information call (215) 574-3127.

Baltimore

Baltimore on Ice
Throughout November & December, 1997
In addition to providing daily access to anyone wishing to skate, the Inner Harbor Ice Rink provides a number of special activities and skating exhibitions. Admission charge for skating; free for viewers.

Thanksgiving Parade
November 22, 1997
Santa returns to town, accompanied by motorcycle units, clowns and live animals. Begins 11pm at Pratt Street, proceeds past Oriole Park at Camden Yards to Market Place.

New Year's Eve Celebration
December 31, 1997
Includes dancing to live bands outdoors at the Harborplace Amphitheatre and Fell's Point, from 10pm to Midnight, a fireworks display over the harbor. Information (410) 837-4636.

Washington DC

Veterans Day
November 11, 1997
Solemn ceremony with military bands at Arlington National Cemetery, 11am. Ceremonies also at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and at Mount Vernon. For time of ceremony at the Navy Memorial, call (202) 737-2300, for time at Mount Vernon, call (703) 780-2000.

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Kiddie...

(Cont'd)

November-January 1998
Saks Fifth Avenue at 50th Street; Macy's, Herald Square, 34th Street and Broadway; Bloomingdale's, Lexington at 59th Street; Lord & Taylor at 39th Street and 5th Avenue; Barney's uptown, Madison Avenue at 61st Street; Barney's downtown, 7th Avenue at 17th Street; and other locations on 5th Avenue.

Radio City Christmas Spectacular
November 6-January 4, 998
Radio City Music Hall
50th St & 7th Ave., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

Amateur Night @ the Apollo**
November 12, 1997 &
December 10, 1997
253 W. 125th St., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) Hi5-TKTS

NYC Ballet**
November 13 & 29, 1997
NYS Theatre @ Lincoln Center
65th & Broadway, NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-4100

Walt Disney's Hercules on Ice
November 6-9, 1997
Madison Square Garden
34th St. @ 7th Ave., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171
November 11-16, 1997
Hershey Park Arena
Hershey Park, PA
Tx/Info: (717) 693-4100
November 18-23, 997
Nassau Coliseum
Uniondale, NY
Tx/Info: (516) 888-9000
November 25-30, 1997
Continental Arena
East Rutherford, NJ
Tx/Info: (201) 507-8900
December 26 - January 4, 1998
Feld Entertainment Corestates Center
Philadelphia, PA
Tx/Info: (215) 336-2000

Smart Parent Expo
November 15 & 16, 1997
NYC's ultimate resource fair for parents and kids.
New York Coliseum
59th St. & Central Park West
New York, NY
Info: (212) 869-0956

A Christmas Carol
November 18 - January 4, 1998
Madison Square Garden
34th St @ 7th Ave., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171
December 9, 1997
Kirby Center - Public Square
Wilkes - Barre, PA
Tx/Info: (717) 826-1000
December 12-21, 1997
VA Beach Pavilion Theatre
Virginia Beach, VA
Tx/Info: (757) 671-8100

Holiday Garden Railways Exhibition*
November 21-January 4, 1998
Children are mesmerized by this sylvan wonderland; enjoy large-gauge model railway trains as they wind through imaginative holiday landscapes.
Holiday Puppet Theatre*
December13-January 4, 1998
Featuring Master Puppeteer Ralph Lee.
Children's Tree Garden*
December 14-January 7, 1998
Miniature Holiday Tree Exhibition, view a glittering display of more than a dozen miniature trees thematically decorated by some of New York City's top designers and personalities.
New York Botanical Garden*
200th St. & Southern Blvd.
Bronx, NY. Tx/Info: (718) 817-8700

Apollo Children's Showcase
November 23, 1997
Apollo Theatre
253 W 125th St., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

Macy's Santaland & Puppet Theater
November 24-December 25, 1997
34th St. @ Broadway, NYC
Info: (212) 494-5432

Miracle on Madison Avenue
Free Children's Festival
December 7, 1997
Madison Avenue
57th St. - 72nd St.
Info: (212) 788-7439

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**
December 9, 13, 20 & 30, 1997
City Center (Hi5 Event)
W 55th St. (bet 6&7 Ave.), NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 708-3035

VA Symphony Kids Concert Yuletide Celebration
December 13, 1997
Harrison Opera House
Norfolk, VA
Tx/Info: (757) 671-8100

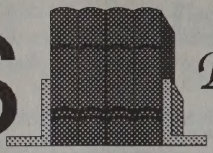
Virginia State Fair
December 17-22, 1997
Chrysler Hall
Norfolk, VA
Info: (757) 671-8100

The Lights
December 18-31, 1997
A holiday musical celebrating Christmas, Chanukah and Kwaanza at the New York Youth Theater. 422 W. 57th St., NYC. Tx/Info: (212) 242-2822.

Central Park Moonlight Ride
December 26, 1997
Columbus Circle @ 59th St.
NYC free event!
Info: (212) 802-8222

MOVIES
(check local theater listings)
Fairy Tale-A True Story
Starship Troopers

Freelance
Graphic Artist
Wanted
(212) 560-2337

BookEnds  *By Sean*

This Sistah Reads Them...

Comments and suggestions should be addressed to: BookEnds; c/o Colours Magazine; 96 Lefferts Place; Brooklyn, New York 11238.

A/K/A

by Ruthann Robson

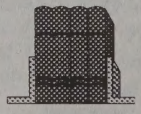
Two lesbians leading totally separate lives, who have both carefully created new identities for themselves, watch their secrets unfold as their paths cross and they become drawn to each other. **A/K/A** is about two lesbians who have assumed so many personal and professional disguises that they've forgotten who they really are. But, like most facades, they begin to untangle. Margaret and BJ meet each other outside a professor's office. Both are blinded by defensiveness and fear finding it difficult to acknowledge the sparks of interest between them. Margaret is studying to become a lawyer while trying to escape a terrible past of foster homes, the early death of her lover and her perplex life as a lesbian prostitute. "Lesbian Prostitute?"...Yeah, right!...

BJ's story is hits closer to home. She's a soap opera star who has many lesbian viewers but her attempt to "out" herself in a fan magazine has been axed by the Soap's editors. BJ lives with her lover, Lenore, with whom she has raised Lenore's son, Malcolm. Lenore is also struggling with her own identity...[actually suffering from bouts of insanity]. Malcom's sperm donor shows up...Lenore runs off with him...and BJ is left alone, worried and confused. To add some real life drama, BJ is plagued with wanting custody of their son...

Both BJ and Margaret yearn for solidity and connection as their lives inch closer to crisis and their outward differences keeps them apart.

A/K/A lays bare the lives of two arresting women from vastly different worlds on an inexorable trajectory toward each other. I found the idea of a lesbian prostitute intriguing but not very believable. However, it did help to create some originality and complexity in an attempt to make this a "doable" novel.

One Bookend for an attempt at originality. Less one Bookend because it was just to unbelievable. Plus one Bookend just 'cause you wanted to see how it all ends! Leaving a total of one bookend! Don't rush out to buy this compelling and suspenseful thriller "wannabe!"

Rating: 

month for what promises to be an instant best-seller, and a spokesperson for one of them said they were willing to offer up to 10 million pounds for such a manuscript, sight unseen. Reports have John collaborating on the as yet untitled book with Ingrid Sischy, the openly-lesbian editor-in-chief of "Interview" magazine and a contributing editor with "Vanity Fair," described in one report as the only writer John respects enough to work with him on the manuscript. David Chalfant, John's literary agent, promises a "reflective and introspective" tone, saying it will be "one of the biographies of the decade." Some commentators have speculated that the unexpected deaths this year of John's close friends Gianni Versace and Diana, Princess of Wales have lead the singer to contemplate his own mortality. The book should be ready for publication late next year. In a press statement issued last month, John noted that he had been asked several times in the past about writing his memoirs, "but the time never seemed right. In 1997 I celebrated my 50th birthday and a 30-year creative partnership with lyricist Bernie Taupin. These and other milestones, professional and personal in nature, lead me to think that the time has finally come." On another note, Elton John's *"Candle in the Wind 1997"* has sold well over 32 million copies last and the numbers are steadily growing. Making this the number one selling single of all time.

British Airways (BA) has joined Subaru of America as the second corporate sponsor of the Rainbow Card, a Visa affinity credit card, representing the first time the airline has directly sought the business of gay and lesbian travel customers. British Airways had previously limited such efforts to promotional campaigns targeting travel agents serving the lesbigay market.

Afternoon shoppers in Tokyo got something they hadn't bargained for late last month: Japan's first-ever lesbian pride march. Under banners such as "Happy Dyke Day" and "Homosexuals Are Citizens Who Work, Study And Pay Taxes," about 200 colorfully-dressed lesbians gathered in the Shibuya district, a favorite area for the younger generation, filled with designer stores, upscale bars and sex clubs, and literally stopped traffic as they marched through some of the city's crowded afternoon streets, with drums banging, whistles blowing, and the music of k.d. lang as their soundtrack. The attire ranged from conservative business suits to feathers and gold lame, with some draped in rainbow flags, but the message was the same: it was time for Japan's female queer community to increase its visibility and assert its pride. Reaction from onlookers ranged from amused support to bewilderment. Patriarchal mainstream culture generally associates lesbians with pornography, and that one of their goals was to counter that image. Others recognized that official bias could intensify if lesbians and gays were more open, but that the main problem now is invisibility, because discrimination can't be fought from inside the closet.

Janet's New Song: Janet Jackson's latest Virgin Records release "The Velvet Rope" is getting positive reviews in music industry publications, and raising a few eyebrows as well. In one of the cuts, a reworking of Rod Stewart's classic "Tonight's The Night," the lyric's female references are left intact, suggesting that Jackson's love object may be another female. Other cuts on the album deal with gay bashing, domestic violence, and AIDS. According to "Billboard" magazine, Jackson describes the album as a way to "face the pain I've experienced growing up."

The results of a study released last month concludes that the rate of domestic violence among lesbian and gay couples is comparable to that among their heterosexual counterparts -- as high as 25 to 33%. The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs compiled data from agencies in 12 cities around the U.S. collected from 1986 to 1997. For the year 1996, their report tabulates 2,352 cases of physical, sexual and verbal violence occurring in same-gender relationships. Gay and lesbian couples share not only the incidence of domestic violence, but the conflicting emotions and denial that go along with it. What they don't have access to in most cases, unlike heterosexuals, is legal protection and crisis intervention services. No state in the union automatically classifies the violence between same-gender pairs as "domestic violence," and in seven states such classification is expressly banned. Moreover, in the 21 states that still have anti-sodomy laws on the books, proof of sodomy is a pre-requisite for the application of domestic violence statutes.

Veteran lesbian activist Virginia "Ginny" Apuzzo, former executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, was formally announced October 1 as the Clinton administration's new Assistant to the President for Management and Administration. The 18 Assistant to the President positions are considered to be second only to Cabinet posts, making Apuzzo the highest-ranking

PERSONALS

Mature Attractive GBF 35+ seeking same for friendship. Serious D&D free person only. #101

Real Adult looking for same. Should be 40 + GBF without attachments. #121

Looking for a special person for my friend! Can you help me? She is an "all natural" boy type, in her late 20's, tall, very athletic and open minded. BiF need not apply! You should be without baggage, non-smoker, close in age, single, and open minded. Race, color or type not important! Phone number and picture a must. If I like you...then you've got a chance. #116

Latin Princess
GBF femme aggressive looking for her petite carmel complexion Latin Princess. Femmes Only! #166

Sincere Attractive Aggressive GBF 35 year old. Seeking friendship & other with open minded D & D free women between 30-40 years of age only. #125

GBF Femme Aggressive looking for same who is adventurous and loves to have fun. Must be horny at all times like myself. If this sounds good to you then I'm waiting impatiently. #104

GBF (Femme)
Newly relocated to DE. Have 5 year old daughter & loves to cook. Looking for a mature, honest & down to earth woman that enjoys traveling. I'm a petite woman so you should be small - medium build. #127

Lonely Lovable Lady
GBF (28) tired of going to the movies alone. Tired of being a 3rd wheel. Maybe you can keep me company. Must be 28-38, secure & without baggage. #112

Mature Professional Femme GBF seeking same to share hot baths - hot sex & hot love. Please 28 yrs +. #102

GBF Attractive fem searching for financially stable fem/aggressor. Must be 35-40, spiritual, honest, attractive (Don't get discouraged if you don't fit the bill. Just have confidence!), and want to have fun. How about getting to know each other better? I'm sure you won't be disappointed. # 139

I've got a lover but need a mistress! Looking for femme under 32 who wants to have fun without strings attached. Sex, Sex & more Sex. #115

GBF, 38. This Aggressor is 5'6", 180 lbs, is looking for a woman who knows what she wants. D&D free, NO bi's. Femmes only! Non-smoker. #126

Femmes Only
Attractive Soft Butch, Latin, 43 seeking young spirited femme, 38-48. #134

MULTIPLES

2 is better than 1
Open minded GBF seeking mature & financially secure lesbian couple to fulfill all their sexual pleasures. #208

Couple seeking young hot & very horny girl to please us on demand. Must be open minded with alot of flexibility. Should be under 27 but older than 21. The younger the better. Send pic. & details. #201

ANYTHINGS GOES

Naughty little girl needs a spanking. Seeking dom type for discipline. Should be mature single D&D free. #025

BiF loves TOYS! Do you have any for me to play with? Strap one on & give me orgasm after orgasm. Anything goes! Age, color or orientation not important. #014

Experienced Black Master 40's is seeking a kind, friendly, very honest, sexy, non-smoking, D &D free, submissive, bright, straight or bi lady. Black, Latin, Asian or White. 24+ eager to serve me in Ft. Green Brooklyn. I enjoy everything kinky, from wild to mild. Limits definitely respected. Okay naughty girls your prince is waiting. Photo & phone very helpful... #066

Something Extra
Femme GBF (25-30) in open relationship seeking same. No commitment, no strings attached. #006

Travel Buddy
Mature GBF 26 seeking GBF 30-40 for intimate travel companion. Weekends & Vacations. Financially secure individuals should send picture & details. #010

Send all respones to:
Colours Magazine,
Personals #
(include box number located at the end of each ad)
96 Lefferts Place.
Brooklyn, NY 11238,

Horoscope

Scorpio

October 23 - November 22

Scorpio women are usually the all-or-nothing type who finds strength, power and positively in the most agonizing situations. They are complex and intriguing. She is emotionally passionate, sensitive, ambitious, and intuitive yet shrewd and competitive. Despite their soft sensitive nonchalant exterior, these women are strong, self sufficient and tremendously powerful. On the other hand, these women can be resentful and very vindictive. She'll forgive but she may not want to forget! So don't cross these women.

Relationships with Scorpion women are like a storm at sea. It can only be a calm if both women are strong individuals who are committed to working at the relationship wholeheartedly. She is capable of deep devotion and will open her heart to someone she trusts implicitly. If you choose to love these women, you've got to have your ego in check and a respect for her independence.

If you hang in there during your poor financial situation, your year ahead will prove to be quite prosperous. Set your focus on positive finance and things will fall into place.

Some notable Scorpions are Ruby Dee, Whoopi Goldberg and Papa (of Salt & Pepa).

MOVIE REVIEW

Devil's Advocate ♀♀♀
Eve's Bayou ♀♀♀ ½
Gattaca ♀♀♀
Gang Related ♀♀ ½
I Know What You
Did Last Summer ♀♀♀
Most Wanted ♀♀
Playing God ♀♀ ½
Red Corner ♀♀♀
Seven Years in Tibet ♀♀ 1/2

TRIVIA CONTEST

Who was the first black woman on a US Olympic Team?

Send your answer along with your name and mailing address to:
Colours Magazine, 96 Lefferts Place, Brooklyn, NY 11238
Receive a Free T - Shirt

Answer to last month's Trivia: Renee Powell

News... *(Cont'd)*

lesbian or gay ever in the U.S. government, surpassing Roberta Achtenberg's previous role as Assistant Secretary for Housing and Urban Development and Bruce Lehman's current titles in the Department of Commerce. The job does not require confirmation by the Senate. She is one of well over 100 hires of open gays and lesbians that have been made by the Clinton administrations. "By judging applicants on their qualifications rather than their sexual orientation, President Clinton continues to set a shining example for all fair-minded employers to follow....

In October, 50,000 copies of the premiere edition of "The New York Blade News" hit the streets of Manhattan. While many gay and lesbian news junkies might welcome into their locales a sister of "The Washington Blade" ---"The New York Blade News," a weekly distributed at no cost to the reader, is starting at the top as the largest circulation gay and lesbian newspaper in the country, outpacing the current leader -- which happens to be "The Washington Blade" at 45,000. It's also stepping out in style with four-color printing and some graphic design it hopes will be worthy of the nation's fashion capital. To keep up, "LGNY" is planning to add color printing of its own and beef up its press run to 40,000. "The New York Blade News" will emphasize its city and state news coverage, while adding the national news from inside the Beltway that has justly earned "The Washington Blade" its reputation...Can the Big Apple maintain two gay and lesbian news publications?

An Oregon jury on October 27 sentenced Robert Acremant to death by lethal injection for his double murder of Medford lesbian couple Michelle Abdill and Roxanne Ellis. Automatically, the decision will go to the Oregon Supreme Court for an appeal. When the couple's bodies were discovered in their truck in December 1995, bound, gagged and shot in the head execution-style, it sent a wave of terror through Oregon's lesbian and gay community, for the pair had been highly visible as political and AIDS activists. But after Acremant was turned in to authorities by his parents and later confessed to the shootings, it turned out that although he had quickly discovered that his victims were lesbians -- and said that the knowledge made it easier to exterminate them -- he had just arrived from out of state and had no idea of their activities.

Oak Park, IL Registers 1st Partners: Oak Park Village, a suburb of Chicago, on October 27 inaugurated its new domestic partners registry, the first in Illinois. Four lesbian couples and three gay male couples were the first to sign up with the Village Clerk. The certification is entirely symbolic, without legal standing of any kind. It's believed to be the 15th such registry in the U.S.

Special Events (Cont'd)

financial needs. For more information contact Tiye at (908) 810-0957.

Kwaanza Celebration
December 19, 1997 (7pm)
Come and celebrate this non-religious African American holiday with your AALU Family. Enjoy reading, good food and music. Please bring a dish (enough to share) or $4.00. Contact Lynore at (908) 572-4202.

Toys for Tots
During the Month of December, AALU
in conjunction with The Pride Center of New Jersey are asking for your donations of unwrapped toys for deserving children in our community. Please support our efforts. Deadline date is December 20th. Contact Tiye at (908) 810-0957

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia Marathon
November 23, 1997
The 26 mi/42km race begins at 8am with start and finish lines at the Museum of Art.

Candlelight Home Tours
December 4-7 & 10, 1997
Candlelight tours of colonial mansions in Fairmount Park. Reservations required. The homes are decorated throughout December. 52nd and Parkside Avenues, (215) 684-7926 or (215) 684-7922

Philadelphia Home Show
January 10-18, 1998
Decorating and remodeling ideas. Pennsylvania Convention Center, 12th and Arch Streets, (800) 756-5692.

International Auto Show
January 31-February 8, 1998
The latest on wheels at the Pennsylvania Convention Center, 12th and Arch Streets, (800) 756-5692

MARYLAND

Ethnic Heritage Festival
November 1-2, 1997
Essex Community College in Rosedale, MD. More than 30 ethnic communities unite to share different foods, entertainment and displays. Hours: Noon-6pm. (410) 780-6572

Community Pride Advisors Seminars/Workshops
"Welcome to Gay Baltimore"
November 12, 1997 (6:30pm)
"Understanding Your Employer's Benefits"
Workshop is 3 hours long with deli style lunch/dinner served. $10pp or $15 per couple. For additional info. call Mike at (410) 837-8070 or (800) 419-0220.

Fridays After Five
Every Friday in November & December, 1997. Live music set to reef fish, sharks and jellyfish. The national Aquarium at Baltimore, 501 E. Pratt (Inner Harbor), (410) 576-3800.

Baltimore on Ice
Throughout November & December, 1997. In addition to providing daily access to anyone wishing to skate, the Inner Harbor Ice Rink provides a number of special activities and skating exhibitions. Admission charge for skating; free for viewers.

Coin & Currency Show
November 14-16th
Baltimore Convention Center, One West Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 561-995-7985

WASHINGTON, DC

Full Figure Fashion Extravaganza
*November 16, 1997
1997 Annual Miss Gaye America DC
*November 22 & 23, 1997
The Black Student Fund
*November 23, 1997
Info: (202) 387-1414
Washington Convention Center
900 9th Street NW, Washington, DC.
General info: (202) 789-1600

World Scrabble Championship
November 20-24, 1997
Observers are welcome to watch word experts from 35 countries play Scrabble in English. First prize is $25,000. The Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Ave. NW. Information (516) 477-0033

Washington Craft Show
December 5-7, 1997
Washington Convention Center, 900 9th St. N.W. Information (202) 789-1600.

Auto Show
December 26-31, 1997
The new models on display at the Washington Convention Center, Halls A, B, C and D. Continues through Jan 2, 1998. (202) 789-1600.

OTHER STATES

Chicago, IL
November 7-16, 1997
Gay/Lesbian Film Festival
Contact: Chicago Filmmakers, 1543 W. Division, Chicago, IL 60622. Telephone (773) 384-5533.

Key West, FL
December 6-13, 1997
International Gay Arts Festival
Cultural festival of film, theater, art, concerts, seminars, parties, and parades. Contact Key West Business Guild, P.O. Box 1208, Key West, FL 33041. Telephone (800) 535-7797

Arts & Entert. (Cont'd)

Sandra Bernhard
November 11-22, 1997
Westbeth Theatre Center
151 Bank St., NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171

Chris Rock
December 13 & 14, 1997
Trump Marina
Atlantic City, NJ
Tx/Info: (800) 736-1420

Def Comedy Jam Sommore
December 31, 1997
Madison Square Garden
34th Street & 7th Ave., NYC
Info: (212) 307-7171

EXHIBITS/MUSEUMS

African Art*
950 Independence Ave. SW,
Washington, DC
10a-5:30p daily
Info (202) 357-2700

***Ancient Nubian City of Kirma" 2500-1500BC**
(This is an ongoing exhibit)
***Ancient West African City of Benin 1200AD-1897AD**
Features objects of the Royal court of Benin as it existed before British Colonial rule.
***Gifts to the National Collection of African Art.**
Gallery discussion.
November 8, 1997
***Let's Read About Africa**
November 8, 1997
An Afternoon with the Mother-Daughter Book Club.
***Focus on Yoruba Art: Sculpture and Textiles**
November 15, 1997
Workshop for Teachers.
***Igbo Folktales from Nigeria**
November 15 & December 6, 1997
***Nigerian Art-Kindred Spirits-Film**
November 22 & December 6, 1997
***Bangles and Beads Workshop**
December 6, 1997
***Great Great Great Grandparents' Music**
December 13 & 14, 1997

Smithsonian Institute National Museum of African Art
Art night on the mall on Thursday evenings.
950 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC
Info: (212) 357-4600

Center for African American History & Culture**
900 Jefferson Drive SW
Arts & Industries Building
Washington, DC
10a-5p daily
Info: (202) 357-4500

** **"Feeling the Spirit Evoking the Spirit"** by Chester Higgins & Stephens Marc

Queerly Visible
Now thru November 21, 1997
Photo Documentary by JEB (Joan E. Biren) at George Washington University's Library at 2130 H St., NW., Washington, DC

American Indian Pottery: The Legacy of Generations
Now thru January 11, 1998
National Museum of Women in the Arts
1250 New York Ave., NW
Washington, DC
Info: (202) 783-5000

Japan Society Fall Program
Now thru February 1, 1998
333 E 47th Street, NY, NY
The Japan Society 90th Anniversary Fall Program will present exhibits and performances
highlighting the different aspects of Japan's rich theatrical legacy. Info: 212 832-1155

NYPL
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
515 Malcom X Boulevard @ 135th Street. Free admission.
Info: 212 491-2200

Holiday... (Cont'd)

National Tree Lighting
Early December 1997
President Clinton lights the gigantic tree behind the White House, on the Elipse, at approximately 5:30pm. The Elipse is the scene of choral performances and other holiday events the rest of the month. For further information call, (202) 619-7222.

Pageant of Peace
Throughout December 1997
The Elipse is the scene of nightly choral performances, a Nativity Scene, a burning Yule log and Christmas trees representing each state and territory of the nation. Information (202) 619-7222.

People's Christmas Tree Lighting
Mid December 1997
Lighting of the tree on the west side of the Capitol takes place at approximately 5pm and is accompanied by a military band concert. Information (202) 224-3069.

Christmas Candlelight Tours
Late December 1997
Evening tours of the White House decorated for Christmas and aglow with candles. Information (202) 619-7222.

Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Observance
January 19, 1997
Wreath laying at the Lincoln Memorial and reading of his "I Have a Dream" speech. Information: (202) 619-7222. Also activities at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, phone (202) 727-0321.

SPORTS WATCH

Long Island Women's Flag Football
Games began in September and will continue through November 9. Playoff & championship games will be held on November 16. Come out and show your support for these women! Games are at Wantaugh Park in Wantaugh, NY and begin at 9a, 10:15a, 11:30a & 12:45p. For directions or additional information contact the County of Nassau Department of Recreation & Parks @ 516 785-7777 / 7811 or Cheryl-Ann at 718 783-6642.

NY Urban Professionals Volleyball League
Women's League information 212 877-3614

The Magnificent 7!
1996 Olympic Gold Medalists World Gymnastic Tour
November 7, 1997
Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum
Long Island, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171
November 9, 1997
Continental Airlines Arena
East Rutherford, NJ
Tx/Info: (201) 507-8900

Advanta Tennis Championships
November 10, 1997
Villanova University
Pennsylvania, PA
Info: (800) 223-7074

Chase Championships Women's Tennis
November 17-23, 1997
Madison Square Garden
New York, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 307-7171/(212) 465-6521

1997 IFBB Ms. Olympia Competition
November 22, 1997
Beacon Theater
Broadway @ 74th Street
New York, NY
Tx/Info: 212 307-7171

Women's Basketball

****WNBA Update!** - The WNBA touring team defeated SFT Como in Italy on October 14, 93-73, amid controversy. The Italians, who featured WNBA players Isabelle Fijalkowski, Catarina Pollini and Andre Congreaves, took the lead after one quarter and stayed close to the Americans through the fourth quarter. The blow out started after a tangle with Tina Thompson left Andrea Congreaves with an injured knee. She was carried off the floor by Lisa Leslie and Cynthia Cooper. Como coach Aldo Corno was incredulous that American referee Sally Bell had not made a call against Thompson and literally charged after the official in anger. Bell levied a technical foul on Corno and the Italian fans roared in disbelief. The mood of the crowd and the spirit of the team fell apart.

- The **WNBA** touring team was in Paris last month enjoying the McDonald's Championships featuring the Chicago Bulls. NBA commissioner David Stern hopes to add a women's game to the event when it is next held, two years from now.

****ABL Updated!** -

- **FOX** continues to broadcast ABL games this season including the playoff games and the best-of-five championship finals. **BET** will also broadcast 12 regular season games beginning in December. Check your local listings for game times.

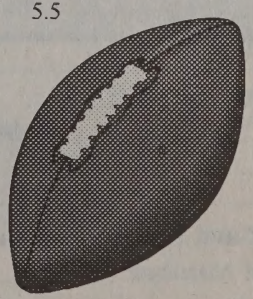
- **ABL STANDINGS** (as of Oct. 30)

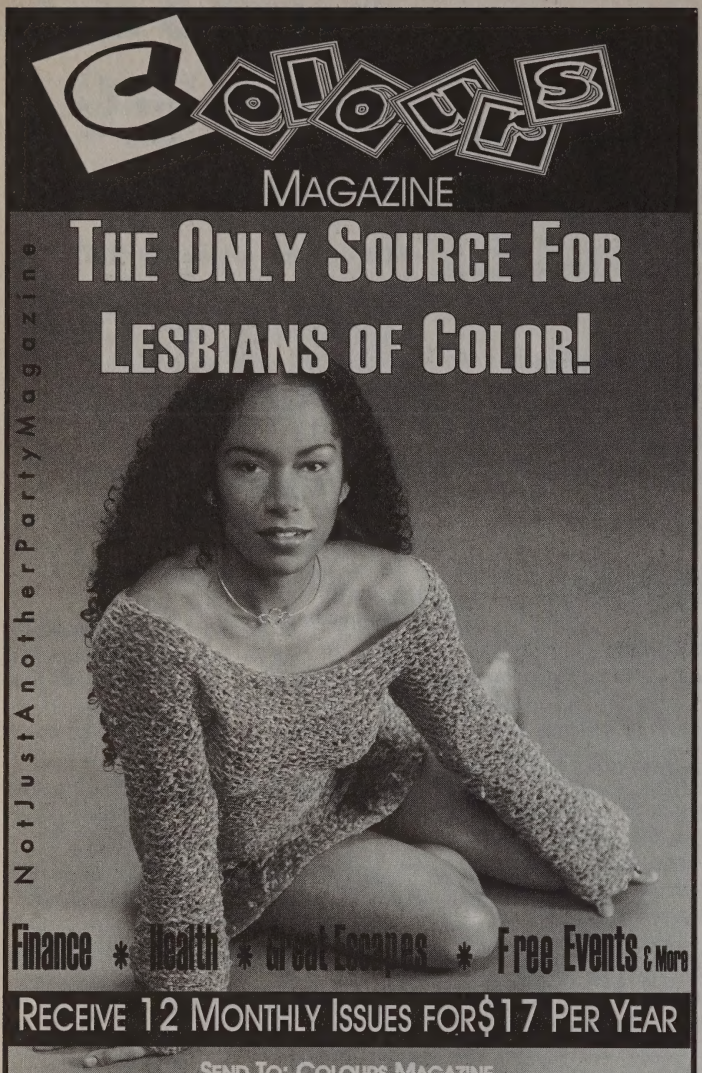
Eastern Conference

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Philadelphia Rage	4	1	.800	0
Columbus Quest	4	2	.666	0.5
Atlanta Glory	3	3	.500	1.5
New England Blizzard	2	4	.333	2.5

Western Conference

Portland Power	6	0	1.000	0
Long Beach Stingray	3	2	.600	2.5
Colorado Xplosion	1	3	.250	4
Seattle Reign	2	5	.285	4.5
San Jose Laser	1	6	.142	5.5





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Money Advice...

(Cont'd)

situation. These include:

Municipal Bonds: The primary benefit of municipal bonds---including those in tax-exempt bond mutual funds---is that their interest payments are exempt from federal (and possibly state) income taxes. Because of this benefit, the interest rates earned are less than what could be earned on a taxable bond with similar characteristics, such as term and quality. Putting a municipal bond into an IRA eliminates the tax-exempt nature of the interest, so you receive a lower rate of interest with no tax advantage. Although tax-deferred, the earnings will be fully taxable upon distribution from the IRA.

Insurance Company Annuities: These investments allow for the deferral of tax on earnings by virtue of special income tax provisions. In return for this benefit, the investor makes a long-term commitment to the insurance company and may pay fees in the excess of alternative investment options. Obviously, if the primary benefit of the annuity is its tax-deferred status, it loses some appeal as an IRA investment. When non-IRA assets are available for investment, it would be best to purchase the annuity outside, rather than inside, the IRA. If non-IRA assets are not available, review carefully the purported benefits of purchasing such an investment inside your IRA.

Foreign Investments: If at all possible, these should be held outside of the IRA. These investments typically generate a "foreign tax credit." Outside the IRA, these credits can provide a dollar for dollar reduction in your federal tax liability in most cases. Inside your IRA, it's an expense that reduces future taxable income only.

Let's assume that you have reviewed all the variables important in determining an appropriate asset allocation, and you've decided to invest your portfolio as follows: 15% in cash; 30% in fixed-income; 40% in stocks; and 15% in hard assets.

Based on these guidelines, how would an investor structure her retirement account and non-retirement account portfolios? Assuming a total portfolio of $100,000, with a $50,000 maximum amount that can be sheltered in the retirement account--- In this example, the investor will minimize her current-year tax and maintain a diversified investment portfolio consistent with established goals and objectives. However, it is very important that each investor's needs be individually assessed to create a well-reasoned allocation between retirement accounts and non-retirement accounts.

Develop a diversified asset allocation approach and make the most of the tax advantages allowed through your retirement plans. Make your investment decisions carefully, with an eye to tax laws that can trap the unwary. Through knowledgeable planning, your tax-deferred retirement accounts can help you achieve your retirement goal. **So until next time, remember economic empowerment is the key to our future as individuals and as a community.....**

Professional Services

Women in Self Help (WISH) offers FREE workshops for mature womenheads of household in: Career Goal Planning; Resume Writing; Job Interviewing Skills; Math, Reading & Writing. (718) 768-9700

Single Parents Support Group - Ms. Sylvester (718) 756-7468

YAADA'S Pride in The Bronx Drop-in Center Support Group for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth
(718) 364-9529

Life Force-Women Fighting AIDS (718) 797-0937

PFLAG (Parents, Families & Friends of Gays and Lesbians) monthly meeting 3 - 5pm. Christ Church Bay Ridge, 7301 Ridge Blvd. (718) 769-1421

Shades of Lavender: This four-year-old project of Brooklyn AIDS Task Force (BATF's) Education Department is a community space for lesbian and bisexuals women and youth located in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Shades of Lavender is committed to HIV/AIDs, recovery, healing and empowerment in our community

Always Your Choice (Marc Gossin, RPA, Director) Gay owned and Operated: confidential HIV testing, extensive pre-post counseling - primary medical care - sliding scale (212) 677-1777

Black Women's Health Project - Non traditional/alternative health service for black women - wheelchair accessible (212) 439-8749

Overeater
Anonymous/Metro Group (212) 206-7859

Women in Need, Inc.
Drug and alcohol rehabilitation program for women (212) 695-7330

Pet Owners with AIDS - ARC Resource Service Total pet care service for people with HIV/AIDS (212) 744-0842

Safe Space
Center for homeless youth; housing, food, showers, educational services, GED, medical assistance, HIV testing provided. (212) 354-7233

Share - Self Help for Women with Breast or Ovarian Cancer
Alice Yaker, Director: (212) 719-0364; Hotline: (212) 382-2111 (English); (212) 719-4454 (Spanish)

Latinos & Latinas de Ambiete/NY (LLANY): the Latino Lesbian & Gay Organization of New York - An educational, social, cultural and advocacy organization of Latino/a queers. Program includes Latino Queer Arts Project; the Annual Toy Drive for kids w/AIDS; Coming Out Support Groups & Newsletter. LLANY meets every 2nd Friday every month, 8pm, the Center, 208 W 13th St., NYC. For more information contact (212) 614-2945

Unity Fellowship Church
Reverend Zachary G. Jones, Pastor; 230 Classon Ave. at Willoughby Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205; (718) 636-5646. Worship & Study Service Sunday 3-5pm; Members class Sunday 2pm.

Liberation In Truth/Unity Fellowship Church
Reverend Jacquelyn Holland, Pastor/Founder; 608 Broad Street @ Rector, Newark, NJ Services: Sunday at 3:30pm (212) 228-3329

The Audre Lorde Project: Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Two-spirit & Transgender People of Color Communities, 85 South Oxford St., Fort Greene, Bklyn. For further information call (718) 596-0342.

BiNet/NJ's Bisexual Support Group, Tuesdays at 7:30-9:30pm, 211 Livingston Ave. Suite B, New Brunswick, NJ (908) 846-2232

Whitman-Walker Clinic: Lesbian Services Program. Pap smear, breast exam, pelvic exam, STD screening, cervical cancer screening, HIV testing, mammography referral & counseling. To schedule an appointment call (202) 939-7875.

Black Lesbian Support Group - Creating a community of support and information for African American Lesbians through peer-led group discussion and social activities. (202) 797-3593

Lesbian Mental & Physical Health Services (202) 797-3585

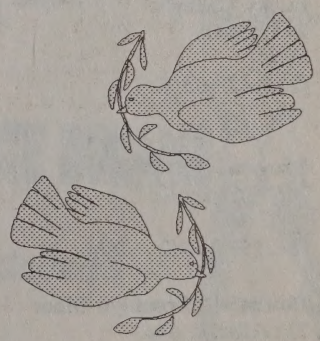
NJ Coalition for Battered Women- (609) 584-8107 Lesbian Sensitive

SED Center
Spanish Education Development Center provides English as a second language classes to the immigrant community and provides educational programs for children ages 3-4, their families and adults in the Washington metropolitan area. (202) 462-8848

Custody Action for Lesbian Mothers (CALM, Inc.) Legal advocacy and referral for lesbian mothers. (610) 667-7508

Coalition for Abused Women
Counseling, support groups, legal services and emergency housing (516) 542-5726

20's Group: A place for gay men and lesbians in their 20's to meet. (301) 419-8020



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Brooklyn, NY
(718) 463-0109

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(202) 833-6572

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(Gay Owned)
(202) 483-1483

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2029 P St. NW
(bet. 20th & 21st)
Washington, DC
(202) 223-1245

Cafe Pesci
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Washington, DC
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(202) 232-6305

Red Hot & Blue
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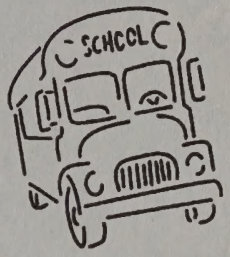

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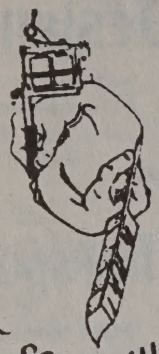

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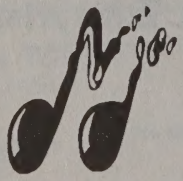

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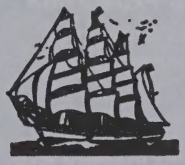

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Stan Williams

SECRETARY
Rosemary Townes

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
C.A.B
Sean

SALES & PROMOTION
Maria Young
Bronthie Jones

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Brooklyn, New York 11217
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April 25-26, 1998
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Philadelphia Pridefest
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Call (212) 807-WALK

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May 29-31, 1998
Call (212) 620-7310

Silk Fantasy's Productions
Pride in Orlando
June 4-9, 1998
Call (718) 542-7508 or (917) 387-4157

Gay Day at Disney
June 4-7, 1998
Call (212) 368-0717

Queens Pride
June 7, 1998
Info: (718) 997-6778

Brooklyn Pride
June 14, 1998
Info: (718) 670-3337

Gay & Lesbian Film Festival in CA
June 19-28, 1998
Call (415) 703-8650

Colours Magazine Pride Weekend Blowout!
June 26-28, 1998
****Party*Midnight Cruise*HerShe Bar Extravaganza****
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29th Annual New York City Lesbian & Gay Pride March and "PrideFest"
June 28, 1998

19th Annual GLPCI & COLAGE Family Gathering
Family Week in Providencetown
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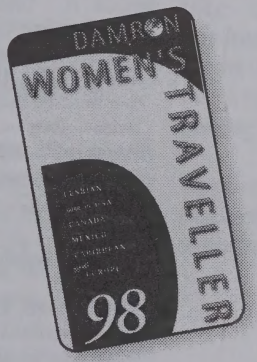

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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Metropolitan Opera '97-'98 Season
Metropolitan Opera House @ Lincoln Center, NYC. Tx/Inf.: (212) 307-7171

New York Philharmonic Season 98-99
10 Lincoln Center Plaza, NYC
(212) 875-5656

Betty Carter: Jazz Ahead
April 15, 1998
Kennedy Center, 2700 F Street, Washington, DC, Tx/Inf.: (202) 467-4600

Mary Lou Williams Women in Jazz Festival
May 22-24, 1998
Kennedy Center, 2700 F Street, Washington, DC, Tx/Inf.: (202) 467-4600

Jessie Norman
June 7, 1998
New Jersey Performing Arts Center
Tx/Info: 1-800-GO-NJPAC

Ashford & Simpson w/ Maya Angelou
June 20, 1998
Avery Fisher hall
65th & Broadway, NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 721-6500

Cassandra Wilson
June 23, 1998
Carnegie Hall
NYC
Tx/Info: (212) 247-7800

FILM

Jazz on Film
April 21, 1998
A television special from April 1959, "Swing Into Spring" features spirited performances by a cavalcade of jazz stars. Appearing on screen are Benny Goodman and his orchestra, Ella Fitzgerald, Lionel Hampton, Peggy Lee, Shelly Manne, Andre Previn and the Hi Los. Free. Borders Books & Music, Washington, 1801 K St. NW, Washington.

DANCE

Dance Theatre of Harlem
ANNENBERG CENTER 1997-98 SEASON
May 6-10, 1998
Information on the ANNENBERG CENTER 1997-98 SEASON is available at the Annenberg Center box office, 3680 Walnut Street, Philadelphia or call (215) 898-6791. Schools and Groups, call (215) 898-6683. Tx: (215) 336-2000.

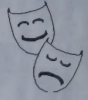
Joyce Theater Spring Dance Collection
Feb. 3 - May 31, 1998
15 weeks of dance excitement by several dance companies. 8th Ave. @ 19th St., NYC. Tx/Inf.: (212) 242-0800

Dance Division Presentation
April 15-17, 1998
Clark Studio Theater, 70 Lincoln Center Plaza, Broadway & Amsterdam Aves., NYC (212) 924-0077.

The Junior Company of American Ballet Theatre
April 14-15, 1998
New works by Lynn Cote, Mark Goden, Lynne Taylor-Corbett and others; music ranges from Dvorak to Randy Newman. Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College; E 68th St, NYC; (212) ;772-4448

Madou Dembele and Super Yankadi
April 17-19, 1998
African dancers and drummers express the "Rhythms of the Soul." Percussionist Madou Dembele plays on a West African djembe drum with an ensemble of drummers and dancers. $10. The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, 2700 F St. NW, Washington DC. For further information call (202) 467-4600

Brothers of the Knight
April 18-19 & 24-26, 1998
Debbie Allen's hip, dance driven drama adapted from the classic fairy tale "The Twelve Dancing Princesses." $10. Terrace Theater, Kennedy Center, 2700 F Street, Washington, DC, Tx/Inf.: (202) 467-4600



Dance Theatre of Harlem
April 28-May 3, 1998
As Arthur Mitchell's company nears its 30th Birthday, it is being driven by a new generation of dancers and choreographers. They bring a new energy to pieces like "Firebird," a Dance Theatre of Harlem signature piece. The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, 2700 F St. NW, Washington, DC. For further information call (202) 467-4600.

American Ballet Theatre
May 11 - July 4, 1998
Metropolitan Opera House
65th & Broadway, NY
Tx/Info: (212) 362-6000

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble & Dayton Contemporary Dance Company
May 12-16, 1998
Two acclaimed companies rooted in the African American experience come together on-stage in this one time only engagement celebrating the achievements of American's Black modern-dance choreographers. The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, 2700 F St. NW, Washington, DC. For further information call (202) 467-4600 or (800) 444-1324.

Laura Dean: Musicians and Dancers
May 19-20, 1998
Laura Dean finds freedom, energy and innovation in the building blocks of dance - and companies from the NY Ballet to the Aman World Music and Dance Ensemble have commissioned works showing off her unique style. Eisenhower Theater The John F Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, 2700 F. St. NW Washington. For further information call (202) 467-4600 or (800) 444-1324.

THEATER (Ongoing)

David Alan Grier
in "A Funny Thing happened on the Way to the Forum" at the St. James Theatre, 246 W. 44th St., New York, NY. Tx/Inf.: (212) 239-6200

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The Art of Meeting Women

by Rhona Sacks

Welcome to The Art of Meeting Women! This is the first installment of a column dedication to helping gay women connect with each other. This column is here for you please send your questions and comments to Rhona Sacks c/o Slope Books, P.O. Box 150636, Brooklyn, NY 11215-0636 or email her at rhona@gaywomen.com.

Q: I just broke up with my lover, and I want to meet new women. It seems as though the only way to find other lesbians is by going to bars and clubs, which I hate. Any suggestions?

A: Absolutely! Many gay women express dissatisfaction with the lesbian social scene. Over and over again I hear women talk about how hard it is to meet the women they want to meet. Here are two beginning steps for meeting compatible women.

•DO WHAT YOU LOVE TO DO

The easiest way to meet the women you want to meet is to do what you love to do. Almost any enjoyable activity can be a bridge to meeting compatible women. Love to cook? Share your enthusiasm by joining (or starting) a cooking group. Enjoy reading? Get involved in a book discussion group. It's easy to indulge your passions, and to meet like-minded women! All it takes is some self-awareness as to your interests and commitment to sharing those interests with others.

When you do what you want to do, rather than what you think you should do, you make meeting women fun instead of forced. You're also so busy enjoying yourself you forget to feel insecure and self-conscious.

•DESIGN A SOCIAL PLAN

If you were contemplating starting your own business, you would create a business plan, right? Well, planning a social life is at least as important as planning a business life. So, why not design a social plan? A social plan is a plan of action. It identifies who you want to meet and why you want to meet her.

Most of us have little ideas about what qualities we are looking for in a woman and what role we want her to play in our life. To figure out who you want to meet, be specific about those qualities which are important to you. Someone who is outgoing? Funny? Independent? Quiet? Athletic? Financially Secure? Sincere? Sexy ?

To figure out why you want to meet someone, be specific about what role you want a women to play in your life. Are you looking for a lover? A life partner? A bicycling buddy? A confidante? A bar and club chum? A traveling companion? A close friend? An occasional sex partner?

Answering these questions will help you to meet the right women. The "right women" for you are women with whom you effortlessly develop a rapport. You're most likely to form a rapport (an emotional bond) with women who share your interests, values, beliefs, and lifestyle. We feel comfortable being around like-minded women because compatibility creates connection. Think about your closest friends. They may not be exactly like you, but they probably share many of your interests and values.

Too many of us passively wait for the right women, hoping they will magically cross our path. Looking for compatible women without having a social plans is like driving to a foreign destination without a map. Knowing where you're going helps you to plan the best way of getting there.

Next month, I'll discuss more beginning steps for meeting the women you want to meet.

SPECIAL EVENTS

NEW YORK

Women Drawing Women
A life drawing session for lesbians the first Saturday each month at The Center, 208 West 13th St., NYC -- $5 per artist -- bring own materials. Call Melissa Wolf for info. (718) 932-4525

Other Countries: Black Gay Expression Writing Workshop
Every Saturday from 5pm to 8pm at the Lesbian & Gay Community Service Center. Open to gay and lesbian writers of African descent. (212) 627-2629.

Fashion Shows
(Mon-Fri. (12:30pm, 2pm & 7pm)
Fashion Café, 51 Rockefeller Plaza at Sixth Ave., NYC. The supermodel-owned cafe will be holding fashion shows every week. Patrons will have the opportunity to view the work of some of the world's top designers as well as those of hot new up-and-coming designers. Call (212) 785-3131.

WorldBeat Jazz at the Guggenheim
Enjoy jazz and cocktails in the Frank Lloyd Wright Rotunda, Friday and Saturday nights 5-8pm. Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Fifth Ave. (At 88th St.). Info: (212) 423-3500

Amateur Night at the Apollo Theater
Every Wednesday, 125th St. NYC

Opens April 8
Quidam Cirque Du Soleil
Batter Park City. For tickets call 1 (800) 678-5440.

April 11, 1998
NY International Auto Show
Jacob Javits Center, 34th St. & 11th Ave. , NYC. For further information or tickets call (212) 307-7171.

April 11 & 17, 1998
The Performance Art Chorale Greatest Hits is Coming to New York City's Producer's Club this April
The Pac is back for their 4th year. Under the artistic and musical direction of Ms. Miche, this troop of creative souls have put together a captivating show of their greatest hits. They will be performing at The Producer's Club, 358 West 44th St. $15 in advance, $18 at the door & $13 for groups. For reservation & information call the PAC HOTLINE (212) 604-4828.

April 17-18, 1998
Champagne Charity Ball Weekend
Holiday Inn, Inner Harbor, 301 West Lombard Street, Baltimore, MD, $40 per person (advance sales only). April 17; pre-Champagne Ball; casual attire; April 18, Champagne Ball; formal attire. For further information please call (718) 992-9073.

April 20, 1998
Wimmins Singles Night
Sonoma of Personal Personals will be hosting at Julies. 204 East 58th St., near 3rd Ave., (212) 88-1294 or 388-7025. Strawberrie is our dancer, Carmen is our Singer and Sonoma, our Mistress of Wetness will be on hand with her Wet Goods. Open mic and their will be a raffle drawing. Drinks are 2 for 1 from 5-7pm. and the first 10 people receive a free gift. $3 w/flyer & $5 without.

April 21, 1998
Ethnic Food in America
Does chop suey pass as Chines Food? Are burritos Mexican? Josefina Howard, chef/owner of Rosa Mexicano; Daniel Young, critic for "Daily News'; and Madhur Jaffrey, a cooking teacher and author, sit on a panel and but heads over these culinary questions at the New School for Social Research. For further information call (212) 229-5353.

April 22, 1998
May 13, 1998
June 10, 1998
So You Want to Be an Entrepreneur
NYACN presents So You Want to Be an Entrepreneur with Kate Wendleton, president, Five O'Clock Club. Three workshops on how to get started. Is entrepreneurship right for you? How to develop your business idea. Selecting your company name. How to start the development of your business plan. Non-members $15, NYACN members $10. For further information or free membership call (212) 462-9255.

April 25-26, 1998
Gay & Lesbian Expo
Call 800 243-9774

April 26, 1998
Wimmin Speak
This a forum that enables wimmin to speak, be heard, and bring up topics that are important to us. We should use this forum to discuss the things that are near and dear to our hearts. Our first discussion will be about the Butch/Femme Phenomenon.. Location: Uzuri , 653 Vanderbilt Ave. bet Park & Prospect. For more information call (718) 622-5106 or (212) 388-7025 (Free)

April 28, 1998
How to Target the Job You Want
With Career Coach David Madison, PHD. Non-members $10, NYACN members $7. For further information or fee membership call (212) 462-9255

May 1-2, 1998
SAGE
Gays and Lesbians Growing Older
A national conference on aging in the Gay & Lesbian Community
at *Fordham University, Lincoln Center Campus, NYC.*. For registration info. call (212) 741-2247.

May 9, 1998
A Taste of S/M Night
For Women Only presented by the Women's Group at TES, the Lesbian Sex Mafia, and Glove Party. Joint effort benefits the S/M Policy Reform Project, a grassroots project by members of the National Organization for Women who believe that NOW's anti s/m stance should be changed. Free for those interested in sampling a little s/m. Try it yourself or just watch and learn more about safe, sane and consensual s/m. $7 - Contact Susan at (718) 383-3318.

May 17, 1998
Aids Walk NY
Call (212) 807-WALK

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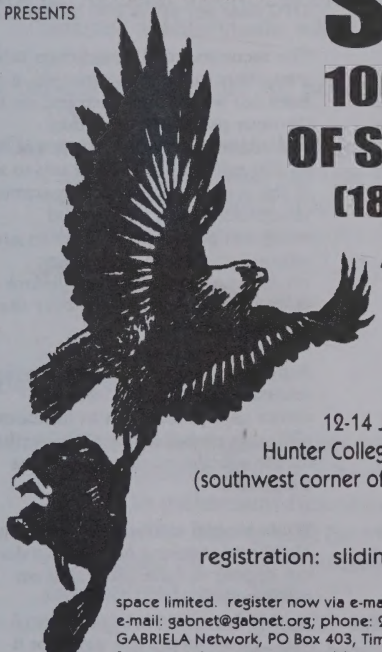

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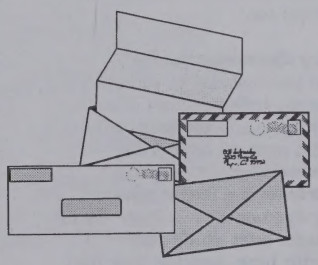

Health Watch

For many women "that time of the month" is one they'd rather forgo. More than half routinely experience some form of pain associated with menstruation and 1 in 10 suffers such severe dysmenorrhea (menstrual pain) she cannot function normally without taking medication.

Throughout history, women have tried to alleviate these menstrual discomforts themselves. But home remedies--teas, hot baths, heating pads, and such -- offered only limited help. As recently as a decade ago, when there were far fewer products readily available for menstrual cramps than now, some doctors prescribed powerful prescription painkillers. Others told patients their problems would disappear as they grew older or after they had children. But today, the pain associated with menstruation is taken more seriously, and there are new, highly effective treatments for it.

What's Causing The Pain?

There are two kinds of painful menses -- ***primary*** and ***secondary dysmenorrhea*** -- and it is very important to distinguish between them so both are treated properly.

Primary dysmenorrhea usually starts within three years of the onset of menstruation and lasts one or two days each month. While this type of menstrual pain may lessen for some women as they grow older or after the birth of children, it also can continue until menopause.

Secondary dysmenorrhea is menstrual pain caused by disease such as pelvic inflammatory disease, endometriosis (abnormalities in the lining of the uterus), or uterine fibroids (nonmalignant growths). ***Endometriosis*** is a major cause of secondary dysmenorrhea. Pain from it usually starts later in life and worsens with time. Another hint that disease might be the cause of menstrual pain is if pain also occurs during intercourse or during other parts of the cycle.

Primary dysmenorrhea is a result of the normal production of ***prostaglandins*** -- chemical substances that are made by cells in the lining of the uterus. (Prostaglandins are also produced elsewhere throughout the body.) The lining of the uterus -- which has built up and thickened during the early stages of the menstrual cycle -- breaks up and is sloughed off at the end of the cycle and releases prostaglandins. The prostaglandins, in turn, make the uterus contract more strongly than at any other time of the cycle. They can even cause it to contract so much that the blood supply is cut off temporarily, depriving the uterine muscle of oxygen and thus causing pain. Women who suffer painful contractions may be producing excessive amounts of prostaglandins. The cramps themselves help push out the menstrual discharge. Because the cervical opening is often widened after childbirth or years of menstruation, cramps may lessen in severity later in life.

Most women describe their menstrual cramps as a dull aching or a pressure low in the abdomen. The pains may wax and wane, remain constant, or be so severe that they cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, backache, sweating, and an achiness that spreads to the hips, lower back, and thighs.

Inhibiting Prostaglandins

For many years, women had little help for these symptoms. Doctors recommended aspirin, heating pads, and hot baths. When those failed, they often prescribed painkillers such as Demerol or Tylenol with Codeine. These treatments were all aimed at the perception of pain rather than the cause of it. But the advent of pain relievers that impede the production of prostaglandins has made it possible to directly treat the cause of the cramps.

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) have proven remarkably effective for many women. Because NSAIDS inhibit synthesis of prostaglandins, and thereby the contractions of the uterus, they may actually reduce menstrual flow. Some physicians recommend taking the medications at the first sign of pain or as early as possible after the menstrual flow begins. Waiting too long may mean they won't be as effective. The prostaglandin inhibitors can cause gastrointestinal distress, so most doctors also recommend they be taken with milk and food. While there are about a dozen prescription NSAIDs, three -- ***ibuprofen (Motrin, Rufen***, etc.***)***, ***naproxen (Naprosyn)***, and ***mefenamic acid (Ponstel)*** -- are now approved to treat menstrual cramps.

Over-The-Counter Products

FDA approved ibuprofen for over-the-counter use in 1984. It now can be found as the active ingredient in several OTC medications, such as Advil, Nuprin, and Motrin IB. The OTC dose per pill is 200 milligrams.

The recommended dose is one tablet every four to six hours (or two, if one does not work), not to exceed six in a 24-hour period. Prescription formulations come in dosages of 400 to 800 milligrams. Taking two to four of the over-the-counter preparations is equivalent to a 400 or 800 milligram prescription. Women are advised to consult with their physicians or pharmacists before taking larger doses of the over-the-counter products.

Aspirin -- long a standard over-the-counter treatment for cramps -- works as a prostaglandin inhibitor, although probably not so powerfully as the specific inhibitors such as ibuprofen.

While aspirin is known to thin the blood and increase bleeding, it does not appear to have this effect on menstrual flow.

Researchers are not sure if acetaminophen, an analgesic found in drugs such as Tylenol and Datril,

Hate Crimes Fact Sheet[1]

The number of hate crimes against lesbian and gay Americans is rising.

- There were 2,529 reported episodes of anti-gay harassment and violence in 14 U.S. cities in 1996.
- This number reflects a 6 percent increase from 2,395 incidents I 1995. Contrary to the conventional belief that most bias crimes are directed at property, such as graffiti and vandalism, a great majority of the violence against GLBT persons continues to be directed at individuals.
- Of the incidents reported in 1996, 95% were directed at individuals, while only 5% targeted property.
- Anti-gay violence rose 102 percent from 1990 to 1995.
- Gay men, lesbians and bisexualssurveyed by the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force in 1995 were victimized at least three times more often than the average rate for the U.S. adult population. (Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force, 1992)

Hate Crimes Laws

- In 1990, the federal government enacted the Hate Crime Statistics Act (HCSA), which requires the FBI to gather statistics on crimes motivated by bias against the victim, including those based on sexual orientation. HCSA was reauthorized June, 1996.
- According to national statistics collected in 1994 under the HCSA, the FBI reported the 671 or 11.3 percent of the 5,932 reported hate crimes in 1994 were committed against lesbians, gay men and bisexuals. (Federal Bureau of Investigation, 1994).
- In recent years, a growing number of states have passed laws to monitor and counteract crimes motivated by bigotry. Despite a large body of data showing that anti-gay violence is alarmingly widespread, 21 states have hate crime laws that ignore crimes based on sexual orientation.
- 20 states and the District of Columbia and several cities ad countries have enacted hate crime legislation that includes crimes based on sexual orientation. The laws vary as to whether they include provisions for statistics collection, criminal penalties, civil penalties, and/or injunctive relief.
-

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1. Anti-Lesbian/Gay Violence in 1996," National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, 1997

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(917) 875-3129

NEWS REVIEW

United Nations AIDS Program (UNAIDS) is released new worldwide data last month, including a statement that new infections are occurring almost twice as fast as the program reported a year ago: 16,000 per day instead of 8,200 as previously thought, with more than 90% of new infections occurring in developing countries. That makes some 30.6-million people worldwide now living with HIV, compared to 22.6-million estimated in 1996 -- and two-thirds of them are thought to be in sub-Saharan Africa. UNAIDS is unable to say how much of the difference in the numbers results from improved data collection and how much from an accelerated spread of HIV, but they estimate that only about 5% of those infected with HIV worldwide are aware of their status. Some 10% of new infections are occurring in children under age 15 and more than 45% in young people ages 15 - 24. UNAIDS further estimates 2.3-million deaths from AIDS worldwide in 1997, compared to an estimated 1.5-million in 1996, for a worldwide total since the epidemic began of 11.7-million people.

No Medicaid for HIV: For its inaction on AIDS issues, the Clinton administration is under fire from several quarters, including its own hand-picked ***Presidential Council on HIV/AIDS***. The last straw for many was the administration's announcement on December 5 that federal Medicaid assistance will not be extended to people with HIV to prevent the onset of AIDS, an initiative Vice President Al Gore had announced in April, which he called for a report on in 30 days. Although since June the federal government's own recommendation for treatment of HIV is early intervention with several drugs that will attack the virus at different stages in its life cycle to stop its replication, that treatment will not be available soon in the U.S. for those who cannot come up with some $12 - 15,000 per year to pay for it -- and currently the recommendation is to continue the treatment indefinitely. Ironically, those who already have an AIDS diagnosis do currently qualify to receive the drugs under Medicaid.

Department of Health and Human Services spokesperson Victor Zonana announced that Medicaid coverage cannot be extended to those with asymptomatic HIV infections without a major increase in costs -- hundreds of millions within a five-year period. It had been hoped that the cost of preventive drugs would be counterbalanced by a decreased future need for hospital care. Apparently that future cost-saving doesn't show up in the five-year budget window in which Medicaid policy changes can be made if they do not involve additional costs; or as Zonana put it, "We have not been able to find a revenue-neutral way to do it." Zonana said that a series of projections had been considered by government actuaries. While he did not release details of their analysis to the public, he indicated that several different multipliers of the current income ceiling to qualify for Medicaid had been considered for expanding care for people with HIV.

Good News Numbers: Deaths from AIDS in California dropped 60% in the first six months of 1997 compared to the first six months of 1996 (from 2,788 to 1,112).... Chicago saw its first drop in deaths of women from AIDS (from 56 in the last six months of 1996 to 47 in the first six months of 1997) and a "precipitous" drop in deaths of African-Americans (of both genders, from 207 in the last six months of 1996 to 134 in the first six months of 1997); deaths dropped even more for men (of all races, from 274 in the second half of 1996 to 163 in the first half of 1997).... The Centers for Disease Control had found a 23% drop in deaths from 1995 to 1996.

"A Different Light" Co-Founder Leigh Dies: ***George Leigh***, co-founder and co-owner with ***Norman Laurila*** of the ***A Different Light*** gay and lesbian bookstores, died January 7 at the age of 60. The original store opened in the heavily-gay Silver Lake section of Los Angeles in 1979, beginning one of the most successful gay and lesbian book businesses in the U.S. Over the years, additional stores were opened in New York and San Francisco, the Silver Lake store was later supplanted by one in West Hollywood, and catalog sales were added. Leigh considered A Different Light to be not only a part of the gay and lesbian community, but a part of its liberation movement, and the stores have played an important role in supporting the development of authors and their works. Before founding the store, Leigh was an attorney for Texaco Canada and lived in Toronto.

Newly-elected gays sworn in: To the surprise of almost everyone, Republican newcomer ***David Catania*** bested veteran Democrat Arrington Dixon in a special election to become the first open gay or lesbian ever to win a seat on the Washington, DC City Council. Declaring his victory, Catania said, "I think we've made two important milestones. One is the first time a Republican has beaten a Democrat in a head-on race in the city. And as the first openly gay member of the City Council, that is a breakthrough, and it shows how marvelous...open-minded, accepting and truly magnificent the people of this city are." Catania took 43% of the vote in a four-way race for an at-large seat in a city where registered Democrats outnumber registered Republicans by ten to one, to become the second Republican on the current Council. Arrington and the "Washington Post" both believe that the low turnout for the special election contributed to Catania's upset victory. Virginia's first openly gay elected official ***Jay Fisette*** was sworn in to his new post on the Arlington County Board December 15, thanking "an inclusive and caring community" for his election and remarking that, "I respect diversity and individual differences, and I loathe discrimination. Though my sexual orientation is inconsequential in most instances, it has been fundamental in the development of these core values -- born through my own moments of pain and confusion."

McVeigh Ruling Now Permanent: U.S. District Judge ***Stanley Sporkin*** today made permanent the temporary injunction he

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Money Advice

WHAT'S GENDER GOT TO DO WITH SAVING & INVESTING?

The Statistics

Women still earn only about 76 cents for every dollar a man makes. What most people don't know is that women, as a group, are further crippling themselves by failing to not only save but invest and plan for their future. So you won't be surprised to learn that of that 76 cents, black women only earn 49 cents. Shocking isn't it?

Women save, on average, about half of what men save, according to numerous studies. Their black counter parts average only half of that amount. As a whole far fewer women than men have pension plans, and nearly twice as many women as men seek counseling for debt management.

Women live longer than men, and are often more responsible for the support of children and aging parents than men, and often move in and out of the workforce to care for family members.

Is there a reason that these statistics exist….? And, most importantly, is there something we can do about them…? Most definitely…!!!

During our childhood, many of our parents gave us a piggy bank, a few pennies, and taught us to "save for a rainy day." But few explained why we were supposed to do it. For women, only their brothers or future husbands could address the taboo subjects of money or retirement. Counting on future pension benefits? Only 45 percent of all men receive benefits anyway, and women get just 23 percent...and those who do only receive about two-thirds as much as men.

Women, as a group, do not put enough money away for several reasons. One reason is they can't. Women earn less than men do and often interrupt their careers to raise children. They don't like to think about getting old, so they live in a world of denial. Others believe the quality of life deteriorates when you grow old and are quite pessimistic about the future.

Blame avoidance as the culprit. Avoidance is one of the emotional booby-traps that have caused women to dodge financial planning says some psychiatric consultants. It appears to be a form of denial which relates to a woman's self-esteem. If you save money, you're saying "I matter" and "I'm important and self-reliant."

What Can A Sista Do?

Planning for your future does not mean you're expecting something terrible to happen. Buying a life insurance policy doesn't mean you're doing to die. Opening your own savings account is not a personal attack on your spouse/lover. What it does create is a sense of power and a way, actually, of gaining love, power or mostly, freedom.

Here are four strategies to help strengthen your financial future:

1. The hardest thing for any woman to do is limit her shopping capabilities. I implore you to cut up all but one of your credit cards. If you charge now and pay later, this bad habit will dissuade you from socking away any money for the future as you try to climb out of debt today. And, credit cards aren't cheap. A $1,000 purchase on a 19.8% APR credit card will take 15 years to pay off if you only meet the minimum payments each month. Plus, there's an additional $1,400 in non-deductible finance charges. I know it's hard girls…but *DO IT!!!*

2. Maintain a separate savings/checking account. It doesn't matter if you're single, committed, divorced or widowed. Married people should at least maintain a separate savings account for themselves to feel more secure. Having your own funds is a way of hanging onto your identity and a great way to remain synergistic in your relationship and avoid being symbiotic.

3. Create short-term goals. Young women should create short-term goals as a way to achieve immediate gratification. When you work on reaching short-term goals, you'll see some satisfaction in your lifestyle. The payoff? Your long-term goals won't seem that much difficult to reach. Plus, the earlier you begin investing for retirement, the less you'll need to save to have enough money to live well. A 25-year-old woman who saves $100 a month until she retires will have six times more money when she retires than if she were to begin saving $100 a month at age 45. And, since you will probably live longer than previous generations, increase your projected estimates of how much you'll need to have on hand in personal savings. If you retire at age 65 and live to 86, based on current projections of the lifespan of a 40-year-old, non-smoking woman, you'll need more than 20 years worth of income to live on. You may not have an idea exactly how much you'll need at retirement, but that's not an excuse to buck your duty of making a savings plan.

4. Enroll in a company retirement savings program. A 25-year-old single woman earning $30,000 annually should try to save almost 11.5 percent of her net income if she is covered by a company pension plan---like the ones your parents may have had---although those types of plans are becoming something of the past. Companies are reducing the amount of benefit

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KIDDIE KORNER

New York

Sunday's
New York Kids
WNYC 820 AM
From 6pm-8pm
Talk radio for the young, this easy going show covers a wider range of topics and viewpoints with considerably more grace and good humor than its adult counterparts. For further information call (212) 669-7800

Infant and Child CPR
Keep your kids safe this summer - you'll get a certificate from the American Heart Association upon completion of this course and exam. National Academy Museum, 1083 Fifth Avenue, New York 10128 Call (212) 369-4880.

Computer Edutainment Workshop for Kids
47 W 34th St. Suite 1023, NYC. Comfortable classes - 1 student per computer - 10 computer per class - 6 weeks workshop. 1st-6th Graders, Sat. 10:30a-11:30p; 7th -12th Graders, Sun 11:45a-1:45p; High School Students, Sun 2p-5p; Parent/Child Workshop (6wks) Sat. 2-4p. For information call (212) 268-0915.

Applause Theatrical Workshops
The musical theater class that's a real Off-Broadway experience. Learn hip-hop dance, jazz, singing, acting and more. For ages 10-17. (212) 439-9050

Sony Wonder Technology Lab
550 Madison Ave. @ 56th St., NYC. Four floors of interactive fun, where visitors of all ages can freely explore hands on, multimedia exhibits on communications technology. They can surf the Internet at Cyberplay on-line, edit a music video, assist a director with an ultra-sound examination and view a high definition film in the HD Theater. Free daily. (212) 833-8100

Puzzles & Games
Tuesdays; 4-5pm; Toddler Program 10:30am. Movies - Fridays; 4pm. Brooklyn Heights Branch Public Library, 280 Cadman Plaza West. Phone (718) 722-3353.

Children's Chorale Ensemble
Ages 7/up. Registration now for kids who love to sing. Classes Thurs. 4:15 to 5:30pm. Fee $30 members: $50 non-members. Phone (718) 648-7703 for more info. Kings Bay YM-YWHA, 3495 Nostrand Ave.

Doctor Is In
The "Seuss!" Exhibit allows visitors to enter the wacky world of the Cat in the Hat with an interactive twist. "Water-whirl" offers the chance to investigate the science and art of water. Both at the Children's Museum of Manhattan, 212 W 83rd St., NYC.

Kidnap-Proof Your Child
The Fear Not Foundation
P.O. Box 403
Syracuse, NY 13215
Lee Crull, a former elite commando, "black bag" operative and 63-year-old grandfather, decided to use his life experiences and training to help parents teach their children how to defend themselves. Kids will learn to escape if they are grabbed by the wrist, shoulders or neck or if they are lifted. Parents will learn how to teach safety, protect their home, and hire baby-sitters. For free information including the "10 Golden Rules for Safety-The Quick Kids Version," send self-addressed stamped enveloped to the above address.

High 5 - Tickets to the Arts**
$5 Tickets to theater, music, dance, art & film. Junior and senior high school students can buy High 5 tickets by showing their student ID at any ticketmaster location. They can choose from a selection of the best arts events in New York. For free catalog of High 5 events or information call Hi5-TKTS. Website:WWW.HIGH5TIX.COM

Laserwarp
Using computer graphics and animation, Dr. Nova leads two young characters on an IMAX journey through history----including the big bang and the age of dinosaurs. American Museum of Natural History at 77th-88th St. & Central Park West. Info: (212) 769-5100.

Jan 1 - December 1998
Kid's Cuisine
Learn all the basicscutting, mixing, organizing, measuring, and more with Chef Karen Didio. Staten Island Children's Museum, 100 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island, NY For further information call (718) 273-2060.

Jan 1 - December 1998
Tot's Time!
Workshops of art and play for preschoolers and their parents. There are two levels: Step 1 and Step 2. Staten Island Children's Museum, 100 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island, NY For further information call (718) 273-2060.

Jan 1-Apr 30,1998
Yoga for Kids
Meditate, don't vegetate! Turn off the tube and bond with your kid while you both strengthen your minds, not your remote-control fingers. Himalayan Institute of New York--Fifth Avenue, 78 Fifth Avenue, New York 10011 , A donation is suggested. Call (212) 243-5995 for registration information. NOTE: This class is for children aged five to eight.

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Washington, DC's
Black Lesbian & Gay Pride
Weekend Schedule (tentative)

Thursday, May 21-Monday, 25, 1998

Throughout the Memorial Day weekend, local clubs and promoters will host "Official BLACK PRIDE" parties.

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Welcoming Party

Friday, May 22, 1998

Opening Reception - Radisson Barcelo Hotel 6PM-9PM; $10

Several hundred dignitaries, including Congressional representatives, community and business leaders, sponsors and others will gather on Friday evening for hors d'ouvres and drinks and greetings as part of the official kick-off to the BLACK PRIDE weekend.

Spirit of Washington Cruise 11PM-2:30AM; $50

One of the most anticipated events of the weekend. This cruise on the beautiful, three-deck Spirit of Washington, brings 500 people together for dancing on the Potomac River. The cruise includes a lavish buffet and entertainment.
Kickoff Parties

Saturday, May 23, 1998

BLACK PRIDE Brunches; $20

BLACK PRIDE hosts two weekend brunch events for the weekend. This is a great way to start your gay day with friends, food and music at one of the area's top eateries.

Cultural Arts, Health and Film Festival; 12N- 6PM; $10

This day long event, held at the Radisson Barcelo Hotel, includes workshops, presentations, films and performances, which address a broad range of community interests, including HIV/AIDS education and other health issues, Gay film features, a Black media exhibit and discussion groups.

Sunday, May 24, 1998

Celebration of Spirit" Breakfast; FREE

Hundreds of people will gather on Sunday morning for interdenominational worship, fellowship and affirmation of the spirit of the Black Lesbian and Gay community.

BLACK PRIDE Festival

Banneker Field; $5

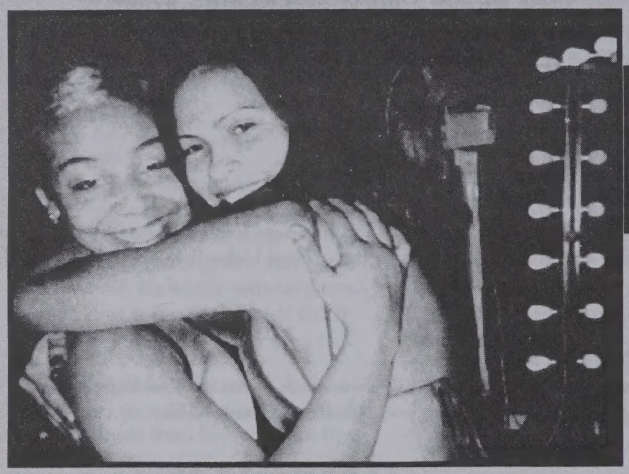
The largest festival for Black Lesbian and gay men in the world! This day-long event includes live stage performances and entertainment, food and product vendors, sponsors and community informational booths. Located at Banneker Field in the historical Washington Georgia Avenue corridor, the festival draws at least 6,000 attendees from across the country, and around the world. Come to see and be seen!

Monday, May 25, 1998

The Larry Spivey Memorial Day Picnic; FREE (Rock Creek Park 16th & Kennedy St. NW)

All events included in the Official BLACK PRIDE Weekend Pass.
Available now for $75 (minimum value $115). - $90 after April 20.
For more information call (202) 667-8188 or 1 800 942-5473.13

Women Only Angels



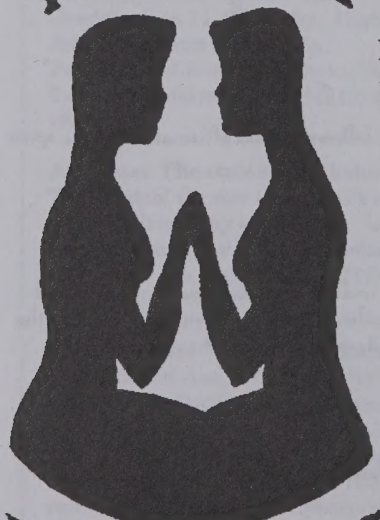
44 Walker St.
(Bet. Church & B'way)
(212) 343-0410

Presents Continuous:
Girl on Girl Lapdancing
Dragking Shows
Performance Art

Adm. $5

Every Thursday Nite!
5pm Til 2am

PERSONAL



PERSONALS

For all your needs in Wimmin on Wimmin dating, call Sonoma & MaJade of Personal Personals 24 hours a day, seven days a week at (212) 388-7025

It's much more than just a dating service...

THE LESBIAN AND GAY PEOPLE OF COLOR STEERING COMMITTEE
The New York City-Based Coalition of
Lesbian and Gay People Of Color Organizations

United Voices United Visions

THE 4TH ANNUAL PEOPLE OF COLOR PRIDE WEEKEND

FRIDAY - SUNDAY, MAY 29 - 31, 1998

A Weekend of Receptions, Roundtables, Speakers, Caucuses, Performances, Par
For the lesbian, gay, two spirit, bisexual and transgender
People of Color and anti-racist/progressive community

Sponsored by
THE LESBIAN AND GAY PEOPLE OF COLOR STEERING COMMITTEE

[Various events will have separate alternative admission prices]

212 / 222-9794 Info

United Voices / United Visions II
is underwritten in part by
The Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center

MUSICAL NOTES

NEW YORK

Busta Rhymes
April 18, 1998
Ithaca, NY
Tx: (607) 722-7272

Erykah Badu
April 20, 1998
Radio City Music Hall
NYC
Tx: (212) 307-7171

LL Cool gentlemen
May 26, 1998
Westbury Music Fair
Westbury, Long Island NY
Tx: (212) 307-7171

Cassandra Wilson
June 23, 1998
Carnegie Hall
NYC
Tx: (212) 307-7171
JVC Jazz Festival NY

VIRGINIA

Eric Clapton
April 16, 1998
MCI Center
601 F St. NW
Washington, DC
Tx: (202) 432-SEAT
Seldom seen live I the United States, Eric Clapton's appearance is a rare opportunity. Post critic Geoffrey Himes wrote of the guitar master's 1994 album release "From the Cradel".

George Clinton & the P Funk
April 27, 1998
9:30 Club
815 V St. NW
Washington, DC
Tx: (703) 218-6500
Far better live than on disk, George Clinton and the many versions of the P-Funk All Stars combine theater, sci-fi and funk into something that must be seen.

FESTIVALS

Essence Music Festival
July 2-5, 1998
New Orleans, LA
Tx/Info: (800) 488-5252
(504) 522-5555
(504) 336-5000 or
http:\\www.essence.com

Gay Pride in July

98' is Bronx Year to Celebrate!

Bronx Pride has finally climbed on board, and deservingly so. 1998 is the year Bronx Pride is launching its first Gay Pride Festival. An historical event of importance because it marks the first organized event where Lesbian and Gay residents of the Bronx community, family and friends can come together to revel in the expression of their pride and love of their community.

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered community in the Bronx, is hosting its first annual Bronx Pride Festival on Saturday, July 11, 1998. Scheduled to take place at 170 Street and the Grand Concourse going south to end at Joyce Kilmer Park where the festival will commence.

Unity through Diversity is Bronx Pride theme for '98, and it encompasses not just diversity of ethnic groups or professions or genders, but it also reflects diversity of collective thinking.

SPORTSWATCH

WNBA News

On April 16-18, 1998 the Pre-Draft Camp will be held at Moody Bible College in Chicago. This event will consist of college seniors, veterans with prior professional experience and international players.

The 1998 WNBA draft will be held via conference call with representatives from each team on Wednesday, April 29, 1998, beginning at 11am EDT. The order of the draft for all four rounds will be as follows:

1. Utah Starzz
2. Sacramento Monarchs
3. Washington Mystics
4. Detroit Shock
5. Los Angeles Sparks
6. Cleveland Rockers
7. Charlotte Sting
8. Phoenix Mercury
9. New York Liberty
10. Houston Comets

The 1998 WNBA season begins June 11.

(Check next month's issue for the NY Liberty's season schedule.)

NY Urban Professionals Volleyball League
Women's League information 212 877-3614

Penn Relays
April 23-25, 1998
Annual Track & Field event will be held at the University of Pennsylvania at Franklin Field. For information call (215) 898-6145.

Women's Sports News

- The ***U.S. women's national soccer team*** is the ***1997 Team of the Year***, succeeding the gold medal-winning Olympic women's basketball team, which earned the honor in 1996. The soccer team compiled a 16-2 record in 1997 -- losing only to Germany and Brazil -- and outscored opponents 67-13.
- For the second year in a row, women's teams took four of the top five places in voting by ***USOC*** officials, athletes and reporters. The ***women's soccer team*** received 386 points. Second, with 363 points, was the ***4x100-meter relay team*** of ***Chryste Gaines, Marion Jones, Inger Miller*** and ***Gail Devers,*** winners of the World Championships gold medal in Athens with an American record performance of 41.47 seconds. The ***women's national softball team*** finished in third place, followed by the ***women's national ice hockey team*** and the men's luge doubles team of Chris Thorpe and Gordy Shear.

Women's Basketball

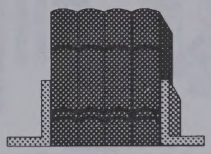
****WNBA Update!**

- ***WNBA*** will tip off its second season on ***June 11, 1998*** with four games.
- Detroit's expansion team unveiled its new team name as the ***"Shock"*** and their first head coach, former George Mason University Coach, ***Jim Lewis***. The Shock shares an automotive reference and team colors as their brother NBA team, the ***Pistons.***
- Washington DC's expansion team also announced their new nickname as the ***"Washington Mystic."*** The logo contains a magical theme and shares the same colors as their NBA counterpart, the ***Wizards.***
- The WNBA announced the signing of 1996 Olympians ***Leila de Sousa Sobraal*** of Brazil and Australia's ***Rachel Sporn,*** who will play during the 1998 season.

****ABL Updated!**

- The ABL announce the creation of ***ABL Charities,*** a foundation established to further the hopes, dreams and opportunities for girls and women through the support of their sports, education and health initiatives. Funds for these purposes will be raised through ABL fundraising activities and private donations.
- *ABL* issued a friendly invitation to the ***WNBA*** to explore the idea of a game matching the two league's All-Stars. The invitation came during a state-of-the-league press conference at Disney's Wide World of Sports complex.
- ABL ***West All-Stars*** defeated the ***East*** with a 102-73 victory on January 18. The Bordens ***MVP*** and $10,000 was awarded to Seattle's ***Shalonda Enis.***

BookEnds



The Art of Meeting Women: *A Guide for Gay Women*

by Rhona Sacks

Meet the women you want to meet. We want to meet other gay women for obvious reasons: friendship and romance. Unfortunately, we aren't always sure how to do it. We are social creatures by nature, but we don't come with instructions as to how to make contact with each other effectively. *The Art of Meeting Women* gives you all the tools you need to meet compatible gay women easily!

Rhona touches on subjects that we all have had some experience with at some time during our dating history such as: finding new friends, conquering shyness, overcoming fear and rejection, approach women comfortably; introducing yourself with ease; or just asking a women for a date effortlessly.

This guide is impeccably designed offering a great deal of support and structure to the deserving lesbian in search of companionship. The first thing that jumped off the page is the message "you must love yourself before you can love anyone else". Often this important factor is overlooked and no matter how hard you try and how many women you meet you can't achieve that so called "perfect" relationship. Knowing what it is you are looking for is a primary factor in building a successful relationship. While you may be looking for that "perfect" one you must know all the things you are looking for in that person and you yourself should become that "perfect" women.

Throughout the guide there are phrases that are repeated to reinforce and boost self confidence and build a optimistic look on relationships.

After reading this guide and listening to others testimonials and practicing what you have learned their should no excuse for you not to find your soul mate.

I give the *Art of Meeting Women* one bookend for all the great deal of research that went into making this guide a reality; and another bookend for Rhona's attempt to help gay women connect with each other; and a third bookend for the originality of being the 1st guide for lesbians to meet their soul mates.

Books to look For:

"What Butches Are For"; Poetic Education by L. Monique

Don't miss the release of the ***Hottest New Volume Of Lesbian Erotica***. A Collection of poems dedicated to the art of loving "B" Girls. Includes powerful pieces like *"The Plot"*, romantic verse like *"Sweet As Karamel"* and hot steamy works like *"A Girl Thang"* and *"Hot Cornbread & Incense"*.

FREE BEES

FREE BEES

Free HIV Testing
(by appointment) @ The Elizabeth Taylor Medical Center - 1701 14th St. NW, Washington, DC or The Max Robinson Center of Whitman-Walker Clinic, 2001 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE, Washington, DC. Info: (202) 332- EXAM

Vaccinate!
The Vaccines for Children program (VFC) supplies doctors in private and public health care facilities with free vaccines for children under 19 who are either enrolled in Medicaid, uninsured, under-insured or with insurance that does not cover immunizations, or Native Americans. Vaccinations are available at Cabrini East Village (97 E. 4th St., 212-979-3200) and Cabrini Haven Plaza (East 12th Street at Avenue C, 212-677-2280).

Breast Cancer Screenings
(for women 40+)
* Breast Examination of Harlem (212) 864-0600
* St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital Center - Amsterdam Avenue at 114th Street
Thursdays (9am-1pm)
*Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center
Fort Washington Avenue at 168th Street
Tuesdays (8a-12n). Call (212) 523-4484

Free Depression Treatment
New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center
(212) 821-0772

Incest & Rape Survivors Treatment
Payne Whitney Clinic/New York Hospital
The Clinic's Trauma Recovery Service provides specialized psychological assessment and treatment for survivors of incest and rape. Free treatment for those who qualify and sliding scale fee also available. (212) 821-0774

Sony Wonder Technology Lab
550 Madison Ave. @ 56th St., NYC
Four floors of interactive fun, where visitors of all ages can freely explore hands on, multimedia exhibits on communications technology. They can surf the Internet at cyberplay online, edit a music video, assist a director with an ultra-sound examination and view a high definition film in the HD theater. Free daily. (212) 833-8100.

Creative Writing Classes
St. Charles Jubilee Center at 55 Pierrepont St. - On Fridays 3-4:30p. Info: (718) 855-0326

The Bronx Museum of the Arts
1040 Grand Concourse, Bronx, NY. Free admission Wednesdays from 3p-9p.
Info: (212) 681-6000

The Brooklyn Botanical Gardens
Free admission Tuesdays. Stroll the grounds, walk through rooms of tropical rain forests and desert climates, see the Japanese garden and pond and learn about trees from Brooklyn and beyond. 1000 Washington Ave. at Eastern Parkway.

New York Botanical Gardens
200th St. and Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY. Sharing Bronx Park with the Bronx Zoo, this in one of the foremost gardens in the world. This season there are many events to celebrate the reopening after extensive renovations of the Enid A. Haupt Conservatory. Garden also offers family festivals and special events for children. Free Wednesdays. For information call (718) 817-8500.

Queens Botanical Garden
43-50 Main Street (at Dahlia Ave.), Flushing, NY. This 38-acre garden was created to preserve the beautiful flora of the 1939 World's Fair. Its beautiful rose gardens and special gardening demonstrations make this a great spot in summer. For information call (718) 886-3800.

Staten Island Botanical Garden
1000 Richmond Terrace at the Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island, NY. Within the Snug Harbor Cultural Center sits a beautiful set of gardens. Walk through the green house and see exotic flowers in boom or enjoy an evening on its cool lawns. For information call (718) 273-8200.

Gardens at Battery Park City
Twenty-four beautiful acres of gardens and park are located at the tip of Manhattan and are part of the residential and commercial area call Battery Park City, all of which is constructed on the landfill created in the building of the World Trade Center. Call (212) 267-9700.

Con Edison Energy Museum
Free Tuesdays through Saturdays between 9a-5p. Learn the history of electricity and of the ways it changed New York City from 1882 to the nuclear age. Walk under a simulated NYC Street! At 145 East 14th Street, NYC. Info: (212) 460-6244.

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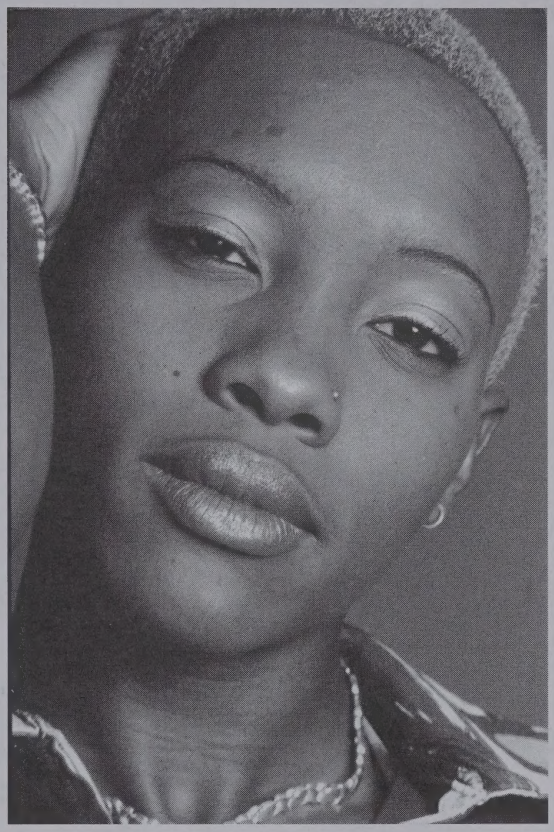
Beauty of the Month

This month's beauty is a resident and native of Washington, DC. Her primary years were spent traveling with military parents in Germany and throughout the United States.

Ms. Smith can be seen on runways modeling for local hair and fashion shows and has graced the pages of "Black Passion" and "Style Q" hair magazines. She has been an exotic dancer for the past two years and is known to her fans as "Sweet Goldie." Necole is also a member of the notorious "DC Bad Girls."

Dancing has allowed her to travel across the US and even Germany to provide entertainment to people regardless of race, sex or orientation. Though dancing has truly become a love of hers, she intends to go back to school to pursue a pediatric health profession in this new year.



L. Necole Smith

Age: 20

Height: 5'6"

Weight: 145lbs

Eyes: Hazel

Hair: Blonde

Hobbies: Cooking, Reading and Writing Poetry.

"People tend to think I am such an evil person, but I'm not! I'm actually really down to earth! It just takes me a lot longer to open up to people---once you open up you leave yourself vulnerable. Not everyone has your interests at heart so I tend to scrutinize people more closely."

Necole implores the women in her area to stop the constant fighting in the local clubs. "It seems as though they don't realize that this kind of behavior tags lesbians of color as "undersireables." As a result, there will be nowhere for us to party. It is my hope that one day our community will become unified…free of negativity…free of oppression."

If you would like to be our Beauty of the Month send a photo, name and phone number to Colours Magazine 96 Lefferts Place, Bklyn NY 11238

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT (CONT'D)

When Pigs Fly
by Howard Crabtree. A Gay Musical at the Douglas Fairbanks Theatre, 432 West 42nd St., NYC. Tx/Inf.: (212) 239-6200

Bring in 'da Noise, Bring in 'da Funk
Ambassador Theatre, 219 West 49th St., NYC (212) 239-6200 or (800) 432-7250.

The Life
Barrymore Theater
243 West 47th St., New York. NY. Tx/Inf.: (212) 239-6200

Ragtime
Ford Center for the Performing Arts, 42nd St. (bet. 7th & 8th Aves.) , New York, NY. Tx/Inf.: (212) 307-4100

Smokey Joe's Café
Virginia Theater, 245 West 52nd St., NYC, (212) 239-6200 or (800) 432-7250

Stomp
Orpheum Theatre, 2nd Ave. @ 8th St., NYC (212) 477-2477

(Limited Engagements)

Kudzu: A Southern Musical
March 4 - June 1, 1998
Ford's Theatre, 511 10th St., NW, Washington, DC. For further information call (703) 218-6500 or (800) 955-5566.

Cinderella
March 18-April 19, 1998
Set in 17th century France, this production combines elaborate costumes of the Comedie Francaise and Offenbach's "Gaiety parisian" to adorn the tale of the enslaved girl who captures the heart of a handsome prince. $5. Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo. For further information call (301) 320-6668.

Stomp
March 31-April 5, 1998
Merriam Theater, 250 S. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA. Tx/Inf.: (215) 336-2000

Ragtime
April 14-June 14, 1998
At the heart of "Ragtime" is the story of three families one upper-middle class, white Anglo-Saxon Protestant, one socialist immigrant Jewish and one Harlem black - whose lives become dramatically intertwined with one another and with the historical characters and events of the period. $25-$65. National Theatre, 1321 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington., DC. For further information call (800) 447-7400

Stomp
April 14-26, 1998
Stomp is the dance and percussion performance that uses everything but traditional instruments like dust bins, tea chests, plastic bags, boots and hub caps - to make a beat. $25-$40. Warner Theatre, 1299 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC. For further information call (301) 808-6900 or (202) 432-SEAT.

Paris When It Sizzled
April 16-19, 1998
This is a world premiere musical revue exploring Paris after World War. $8 general; $5 students, senior citizens. George Washington University, Department of Theatre and Dance, Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre, 800 21st St. NW, Washington, DC. For further information call (202) 994-6178.

Godspell
May 13- June 7, 1998
Conceived by John-Michael Tebelak, this version of the classic musical based upon the Gospel According to St. Matthew closes the season at the Round House. Round House Theatre, 12210 Bushey Dr., Silver Spring. For further information call (301) 933-1644.

Mosaico Cubano/Buan Mosaic
May 14-June 7, 1998
Continuing its "Poetry on Stage" series, GALA creates a palette of songs, costumed dances and tropical rhythms in this original, bilingual production. GALA Hispanic Theatre, 1625 Park Rd. NW, Washington, DC. Call for further information (202) 234-7174.

John Leguizamo's "Freak"
Closes May 10, 1998
Leguizamo allows himself plenty of liberty and leeway with the facts in recalling growing up with a nutty Hispanic family in New York. Cort Theatre, 138 West 48th, NYC.

COMEDY

New York's Top African-American & Latino Comics
Every Friday (11p) & Sat. (12mn), at the Comedy Club, 241 E 24th Street (bet. 2nd & 3rd Aves.), Reserve/Inf.: (212) 696-LAFF

Dangerfield's Comedy Show
Through May 5, 1998
Sundays through Thursdays at 8:45pm; Fridays at 9pm and 11pm; Saturdays at 8pm, 10:30pm, 12:30am. Featuring Rich Ramirez, Lenny Varnedoe, Jim Norton, John Rizzo, Jerry Diner and Nancy Redman. Dangerfields, 1118 1st Ave., NYC; (212) 593-1650.

Comedy Contest
Through June 9, 1998
Tuesdays at 9pm. New York Comedy Club, 241 East 24th St. NYC; (212) 387-8517

Karen's Comics
Wednesdays @ 9pm
Karen Loftus hosts an evening of comedy. Tennesee Mountain, 143 Spring St., NYC; (212) 869-4545

EXHIBITS/MUSEUMS

Studio Museum in Harlem
144 W. 125th St.
New York, NY
Wed-Fri. 10am-5pm
Sat-Sun. 1pm-6pm
(212) 864-4500

African Art*
950 Independence Ave. SW,
Washington, DC
10a-5:30p daily
Inf.: (202) 357-2700

***Ancient Nubian City of Kirma"**
2500-1500BC
(This is an ongoing exhibit)
*Gifts to the National Collection of African Art.

(ongoing exhibit)

Smithsonian Institute National Museum of African Art
Art night on the mall on Thursday evenings.
950 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC
Inf.: (212) 357-4600

Center for African American History & Culture**
900 Jefferson Drive SW
Arts & Industries Building
Washington, DC
10a-5p daily
Inf.: (202) 357-4500

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issued January 26, preventing the Navy from discharging ***Senior Chief Petty Officer Timothy McVeigh***, whose career was about to be abruptly ended based on the "gay" content of the profile associated with one of his America Online screen names. The earlier, strongly-worded injunction, which had asserted that the Navy should never have begun its investigation of McVeigh and had violated the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, had barred the Navy from ousting McVeigh only until his lawsuit was resolved.

"This is a huge victory for McVeigh," said attorney ***C. Dixon Osburn*** of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, the leading legal advocacy group assisting gay and lesbian servicemembers, which has been working with McVeigh throughout his case although not representing him in his federal privacy lawsuit. "What Judge Sporkin's ruling means is that after reviewing the merits of the case, he has determined that the Navy violated the Electronic Communications Privacy Act as well as the limits on investigations under 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue.' This is the first time that a federal court judge has said that the Navy has failed to follow its own rules and regulations under 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue.'" Osborn thinks that the ruling will serve to warn the military that it "cannot go snooping for evidence that troops are gay."

Word to Refugees in the U.S.: Organizations assisting gays and lesbians seeking asylum in the U.S. are increasingly concerned to raise awareness of major changes in the process effective April 1st. After that date, all applicants will have to file within one year of their arrival in the country, unless they can prove "exceptional circumstances." In response, the ***Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights*** has prepared a 178-page publication ***"Preparing Sexual Orientation-Based Asylum Claims: A Handbook for Advocates and Asylum-Seekers,"*** which can be obtained from the Alliance by calling (312) 629-4500 extension 4531.

Cammermeyer Has Democratic Opposition: Retired Army ***Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer***, who was the highest-ranking military officer to be discharged for homosexuality before she finally prevailed in her legal appeal, two months ago opened a campaign office for her candidacy for the U.S. Congress from Washington state's 2nd Congressional District, a seat now held by Republican Jack Metcalf. But Cammermeyer will also be facing Democratic opposition since Fran Einterz declared his candidacy last week on a platform of community preservation, environmental protection and fresh approaches to solving government problems. Einterz is founder and chair of Service Alternatives of Washington, a government contractor with 500 employees providing programs across the state for adults with developmental disabilities and families in crisis.

Scouts Challenged in DC: The latest challenge to the ***Boy Scouts of America's (BSA)*** policy excluding open gays is now being heard by the Washington, DC Human Rights Commission, in the city's first discrimination complaint in at least seven years based solely on sexual orientation. What ***Chief Hearing Examiner Cornelius Alexander, Jr.*** expects to be a "huge," three-week long hearing began January 20, after almost six years of study and preliminary legal tussles. In fact, the Scouts are still challenging whether the case should be heard at all, because it was dismissed in 1995 and then reopened in 1996.

Gay Minister Meets With Tutu: Nobel Peace Prize winner Anglican ***Archbishop Emeritus Dr. Desmond Tutu*** met December 12 in Cape Town with ***Rev. Troy Perry***, founder and moderator of the gay-affirming Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Anti-apartheid hero Tutu has long been a powerful advocate of equality for gays and lesbians in South Africa, on the international scene, and within the worldwide Anglican Church. Tutu and Perry were joined by Tutu's wife Leah, Perry's partner Phillip DeBlieck, and UFMCC area coordinator for South Africa ***Rev. Andre Muller***.

After cordial greetings, Tutu led the group in a prayer of welcome and affirmation. Perry thanked Tutu in particular for his efforts in seeing that sexual orientation discrimination was banned under South Africa's new national constitution, crediting that historic first with helping to spark new U.S. activism on behalf of the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act. The group went on to discuss their shared opposition to the death penalty, Tutu's current work chairing South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, a range of human rights issues internationally, and the roles that religion has played in discussions of gay and lesbian issues.

"Some people always try to take the Bible literally and legalistically. Quoting the Bible is not enough," Tutu remarked. He went on to say, "Parents must love their children. It is a shame that fathers still teach their sons not to cry as though that would make them seem like a woman. Fathers teach their sons not to have real feelings. Every human being should rejoice and celebrate both our masculine and feminine sides."

Perry, who was recently honored by U.S. President Clinton, is currently on a speaking tour of South Africa, visiting gay-friendly churches and human rights organizations. When he spoke at a Christmas Carol Service held by two Pretoria MCC congregations, Reformerende Kirk and Deo Gloria Family Church, Mayor Nombuyiselo Ngele was one of more than 1,200 attending, although she had not previously had friendly contact with the gay and lesbian community. Ngele spoke with Perry and the two local pastors afterwards and said she believes it is her job both as mayor and as a mother to remind African parents that "they must love their gay children."

Equal DP Adoption Rights in NJ: A class action lawsuit brought by the ***American Civil Liberties Union*** against New Jersey state child welfare officials was settled December 17, putting both same-gender and heterosexual unmarried couples on an equal footing with legally married couples for purposes of adopting children in the care of the state. Although perhaps half the states have allowed gay and lesbian couples some form of second-parent adoption, New Jersey is believed to be the first state to make it explicit that unmarried couples will only be denied joint adoptions based on the same standards that would disqualify married couples.

The New Jersey agreement has the force of law and is effective immediately, annulling the state Department of Youth and Family Services policy against joint adoptions by unmarried partners, and empowering unmarried couples who believe they've experienced marital status or sexual orientation discrimination in state adoptions to seek relief in the state courts, including recovery of legal costs. The ruling does not apply to private adoptions.

Although the class action filed last June 19 represented about 200 couples, the central and visible pair were ***Michael Galluccio*** and ***Jon Holden***, who on October 22 won their personal case for simultaneously adopting the two-year-old boy they'd fostered since infancy. The judge who

SPECIAL EVENTS (CONT'D)

May 22-25, 1998
Lick A Lot presents
Gay Memorial Getaway Weekend
Bus Trip to Washington DC. Call (718) 276-9435 or (917) 791-4802

May 29-31, 1998
United Voices/United Visions
"People of Color Pride Weekend"
Call (212) 620-7310

June 4-9, 1998
Silk Fantasy's Productions
Pride in Orlando (Disney World)
Call (718) 542-7508 or (917) 387-4157

June 4-7, 1998
Gay Day at Disney
Call (212) 368-0717

June 7, 1998
Queens Lesbian & Gay Pride Parade and Festival
Call (718) 460-4064 or (718) 997-6778

June 13, 1998
Brooklyn Pride
Unity Through Diversity
P.O. Box 150508, Bklyn, NY 11215; (718) 670-3337

June 21-28, 1998
29th Annual New York City Lesbian & Gay Pride March and "PrideFest"
Heritage of Pride, 154 Christopher St., ID, NYC. 10014; (212) 80 PRIDE.

African American Women on Tour
The Nation's Foremost Black Women's Empowerment Conference. 1998 AAWOT Conference Tour.
Los Angeles: April 24-26
Detroit: May 29-31
Philadelphia: June 5-7
New York: July 10-12
Washington, DC: Aug 21-23
Atlanta, GA: Aug 28-30
For reservations & information contact African American Women on Tour, 3914 Murphy Canyon Rd., Ste. 216, San Diego, CA 92123, 1 (800) 560-2298; Fax: (619) 560-9190; www.aawot.com; email: aawot@mindspring.com.

July 11, 1998
Bronx Pride
Unity Through Diversity
Allerton Station, P.O. Box 670019, Bronx, NY 10467-0800; (718) 670-3396.

NEW JERSEY

April 18, 1998
Coffee House
Coffee Housemaster Kevin has a truly great party planned for you. So drop everything and plan on hangin' in New Brunswick - "Where people make the difference" . For further information call (732) 846-2232.

April 25, 1998
ClubFest IX
at the Club at Woodbridge, 585 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ; 8:30-12:30am; Live Entertainment! The Hilarious Linda Herskovic, back after appearing in New York, Provincetown, on TV and elsewhere! Plus additional opening act! The biggest party of its kind! Tennis, Swimming, Racquetball, Steam, Sauna, buffet, Cash Bar, Prizes!. Free intro. and advanced aerobics classes at 9pm! (bring your workout clothes). Only $10 donation at the door! (732) 846-2232.

May 17, 1998
1998 NJ Gay & Lesbian Spring Street Fair
Douglass College Center, Rutgers University, New Brunswick Les/Gay Marketplace, Haircutters, Massage, Entertainment all Day! Lavender Auction and other surprises! Vendors: reserve table space now!
Entertainers/Haircutters/Massage Professionals: contact us ASAP! (732) 846-2232

PENNSYLVANIA

April 29-May 3, 1998
Philadelphia Pridefest
Culminating in all-day street fair. For further information call (215) 732-FEST or (800) 990-FEST

April 24-26, 1998
Ian Production 2nd Annual Pride Events
1998 Penn Relay Weekend Gay Pride
Call for a schedule of events (215) 732-6047 or (888) 499-4IAN

WASHINGTON, DC

April 16, 1998
5th Annual Personal & Professional Development Expo
Sponsored by Potomac Executive Network, group for Gay Professionals,. Seminars, exhibitors, networking. Washington Plaza Hotel, Thomas Circle, Washington, DC. Contact David Rohr at (703) 437-4990.

April 18, 1998
Youth Pride Day
National event for GLBT youth. Dupont Circle, Washington, DC, Call for details (703) 518-0631.

April 18, 1998
Gay Men & Lesbians Opposing Violence Awards Dinner
A Black Tie Affair to honor those helping the fight against hate crimes. $75. Omni Shoreham, 2500 Calvert St., NW,. For further information call (202) 737-4569.

April 21, 1998
G & L Activists Alliance of Washington 27th Anniversary Reception
$25 in advance, $30 at the door. 6:30-8:30pm. Location: Charles Sumner School, 17th & M St., NW. For further information call (202) 667-5139.

April 26, 1998
L & G Chorus of Washington's Shop with Suede Too
Auction & Concert. $20 @4:30pm. For further information call (202) 546-1549.

April 25, 1998
Co-Dependency
BLSG has group discussions on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of every month. Meetings are held from 3-4:30 with a social time from 4:30-5pm. Group discussions are open to all who wish to attend. BLSG meets at: Whitman-Walker Clinic, 1734 14th Street NW, Washington DC.

May 16, 1998
Pride of PETS
5th Annual Fun Dog Show sponsored by PETS-DC helping people with AIDS care for their pets. Prizes and ribbons in 12 categories. 3-6pm. Dupont Circle, Washington, DC. For further information call (202) 234-PETS.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT (CONT'D)

** "Feeling the Spirit Evoking the Spirit"
by Chester Higgins & Stephens Marc

NYPL
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
515 Malcolm X Boulevard @ 135th Street. Free admission.
Inf.: 212 491-2200

A Spiritual of History: A Carved Tusk From the Loango Coast, Congo
February 1 - April 26, 1998
Baltimore Museum of Art, Art Museum Drive & North Charles St., Baltimore. For further information call (410) 396-7100.

End

Who was the first Black woman to join the NBA regular season officiating roster?
Answer to last trivia: Lorraine Hansberry

MONEY ADVICE (CONT'D)

payments or eliminating the plans altogether. Instead, many companies offer 401(k) plans, which shift the burden of saving onto you, the employee. Don't be scared by this three-digit number with the little letter in parentheses. Enrolling in a 401(k) plan can earn you up to 50 or 100 percent on your money in the first year alone if your company matches your contributions. Fifty percent? Yes!!! The money is taken out of your paycheck---you won't miss it or spend it. The money is invested in a number of options, such as a group of mutual funds. Here's the sweetener: Your money grows tax-deferred until you take it out at retirement.

The goal here is to not only gain knowledge about improving your financial picture, but also execute the knowledge so you can do something. Think like Nike. ***Just do it!!!***

Planning for retirement is a critical issue for many women so take measures now for a strong future. ***So until next time, remember economic empowerment is the key to our future as individuals and as a community...***

END

BRONX PRIDE

Celebrating Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Communities
presents
The First Annual Parade and Multicultural Festival
"Unity Through Diversity"
Saturday, July 11, 1998
12n - at Grand Concourse
(one block from Yankee Stadium)
Parade Route: 170th St. South to 161st and Grand Concourse

Volunteers, Artists & Performers Needed

Bronx Pride
Allerton Station
P.O. Box 670019
Bronx, NY 10467-0600
(718) 670 3396

Brooklyn Pride

Serving Brooklyn's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Trangender Community

Second Annual Pride Parade & Multicultural Festival
Saturday, June 13, 1998
Unity Through Diversity

Brooklyn Pride
P.O. Box 150508
Brooklyn, NY 11215
(718) 670-3337
BrooklynPride@WorldConx.com
www.WorldConx.com/BrooklynPride

Kiddie Korner (Cont'd)

Through December 31, 1999
An exhibition exploring how children learn about life, work and family through toys. Children's craft and play activities throughout the day. Staten Island Historical Society, 441 Clarke Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10306, (718) 351-1611

January 31-September 12, 1998
The World of Peter Rabbit
Takes place at the Liberty Science Center, Liberty State Park, Jersey City, NJ. For further information call (201) 200-1000.

Apr 8-Jun 30,1998
Cirque du Soleil: Quidam
The circus' ninth production, *"Quidam,"* features death-defying acrobatics, shocking balancing acts, hilarious clowns, and a supreme spectacle that you won't soon forget *Battery Park City*.
Call (800) 678-5440 for tickets.

Apr 15-Apr 16,1998
Kid's Quest- A Scavenger Hunt At The Intrepid
Kids up to 17 years of age are invited to hunt for treasure aboard the U.S.S. Intrepid's three vessels. Prizes will be awarded. Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum, W. 46th Street (Pier 86), New York 10036 Call (212) 957-7055.

Apr 16-Apr 26,1998
Yellowbird
Another puppet opera from Los Kabayitos; a young girl living the transient life of a military brat yearns to find her place in the world. Clemente Soto Velez Cultural Center, 107 Suffolk Street, New York 10002, Call (212) 260-4080 ext. 14 for reservations.

Mar 19-Apr 19,1998
The Cardoso Flea Circus Video
Conceptual artist Maria Fernanda Cardoso trained fleas to swing from a trapeze and perform other entertaining acts in a miniature three-ring circus. Fleas die quickly, so instead of a live event, the museum presents a video of the artist as ringleader and insects in action. New Museum of Contemporary Art, 583 Broadway, New York 10012 PRICES: $5; $3 students, artists, and seniors; children under 18 free.

Apr 25,1998
A Winnie-the-Pooh Birthday Tail
Based on the classic stories by AA Milne. This unique production combines deaf and hearing actors performing simultaneously in American Sign Language and spoken English. Part of the Tribeca Performing Arts Center's Family Folk and Fairy Tale Series. All ages. Tribeca Performing Arts Center, 199 Chambers Street, New York 10007, Call (212) 346-8500 for tickets and more information.

May 2,1998
Family Tai Chi
Reduce stress, increase flexibility and develop inner awareness about your body and the environment in this soothing Central Park setting.
Central Park--Charles A. Dana Discovery Center, East side of Central Park at 110th Street., New York 10026, HOURS: 11:00am-12:00pm -- Free. Call (212) 860-1370 for reservations.

May 1-29, 1998
The Wizard of Oz
at the Theatre at Madison Square Garden, 33rd & 8th Ave., NYC. For tickets call (212) 307-7171.

May 2,1998
Print Shop
Children experiment with the process of printmaking. Central Park--Charles A. Dana
Discovery Center, East side of Central Park at 110th Street., New York 10026, Call (212) 860-1370 for reservations.

May 16-24, 1998
Big Apple Circus at Cunningham Park
Chase presents the Big Apple Circus 20 years Cunningham Park, Queens, NY F. Lewis Blvd. & Union Turnpike. Call (212) 307-4100 for tickets.

May 12,1998
What to Look for in Childcare and How to Find It
MEET AT: Sulzberger Parlor, third floor of Barnard Hall. Marjorie Goldsmith, director of the Rockefeller University Child and Family Center, and Cynthia Pollack, director of the Tomkins Hall Nursery School and Childcare Center, teach. Barnard Center for Research on Women , W. 119th Street, NewYork 10027,Call (212) 854-2067 for information.

Washington

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus
D.C. Armory, 2001 East Capitol St SE, Washington, DC, (202) 547-9077

Every Wednesday at 10:30am
Under Five Story Time
Borders' staff reads tales for kids under age 5. Borders Book & Music, Gaitherburg Square Shopping Center, 534 N. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg, MD, (301) 921-0990.

Daily
Mars & Beyond
A little girl's fascination with the night sky is the backdrop for this planetarium show that takes visitors on an extraterrestrial tour to the moon, Mars and beyond. National Air and Space Museum, Einstein Planetarium, 7th St & Independence Ave SW, Washington, DC, (202) 357-2700; Shows daily at 11:00am and 1:00pm

Through June 6
Oliver!
This production is a musical version of Charles Dickens' classic story about an urchin. In this tale set in 19th-century England, Oliver escapes from his tough workhouse life and goes to London to seek his fortune. There he gets to experience the Crime School for Boys and a gallery of lowlifes. The musical features songs such as "As Long As He Needs Me," "Consider Yourself" and "Where Is Love?" Strathmore Hall Arts Center, 10701 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD, (301) 530-0540

April 13, 1998
African-American Family Celebration
The annual African-American Family Celebration at the zoo includes an Easter-egg hunt, animal demonstrations, storytellers, dance troupes, double-Dutch jump-rope stars, jazz musicians, gospel singers, African drummers, artisan displays and an ethnic food court.. National Zoological Park, 3001 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC, (202) 673-4800; FREE

April 14, 1998
First- to Third-Grade Reading Group
A monthly reading group for young readers invites participants to share their favorite books and literary works for group discussion.
Borders Books & Music , 4420 Mitchellville Rd, Bowie, MD, (301) 352-5560

Through April 19
BAPA's Imagination Stage
The classic tales of Br'er Rabbit are retold in this new play

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Free Bee's (Cont'd)

Brazilian Samba Show
Free before 9p every Saturday at S.O.B's 204 Varick Street @ Houston. Info: (212) 243-4940.

Musical Mondays
Splash Bar
(212) 691-0073
Especially for fans of Babs and Judy? You Bette believe it! Showtune-obsessed gay of all ages flock this seabreeze-fueled sing-along celebration of an apparently not quite outdated stereotype.*(mostly men)*

Rec Room
Meow Mix
(212) 254-0688
Mondays at 11pm
DJ Gail spins surf and rockabilly while grungy gay gals play bingo and other "recreational games' (ahem) at this popular Lower East Side lesbian bar. Sounds like a Phranc song to me.

Playwright Competition
Tuesdays at 7pm
CSV Cultural Center, 107 Suffolk St., NYC. For further information call (212) 260-4080.

Community Tai Chi Class
(for the L& G Community) at Malcolm X Park, NW @ 16th St. & Euclid St. Contact George for time. (202) 332-7570

The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC
As part of its Performing Arts for Everyone initiative, the Kennedy Center presents free performances every day of the year (except Christmas) on its Millennium Stage in the Grand Foyer. These performances of music, dance, and theater begin at 6 p.m. (except as noted) and last about one hour; they feature artists and ensembles from the Washington area and around the world. No tickets are ever required; all performers and programs are subject to change without notice. Info (202) 467-4600 or toll-free (800) 444-1324.

Saturday Morning at the National
FREE!! FREE!! FREE!! FREE!! FREE!! FREE!!
This series brings children and their families to the Helen Hayes Gallery in Fall, Winter and Spring for theatre, music, dance, clowning, juggling, story-telling, magic and instructional nature and science shows.
The programs run from September through April, with performances on Saturday mornings at 9:30 am and 11:00 am, in the Helen Hayes Gallery at the National. Admission is free, on a first-come, first-seated basis. Program schedules can be secured by sending a Self-Addressed, Stamped Envelope to "Saturday
Morning," National Theatre, 1321 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004. Recorded program information is also available at 202 783-3372.

Julliard Theaters at the Julliard School
Wednesdays at One.
Through May 27, 1998
Paul Hall
The Julliard symphony performs works by Julliard student composers. For further information call (212) 769-7406.

Happy Birthday New York: Julie Budd & Peter Howard
April 20, 1998
World Financial Center, Westside Hwy between Liberty & Vessey. Part two in a series celebrating the musical heritage of each of the five boroughs. For further information call (212) 945-0505.

END

HEALTHWATCH (CONT'D)

Some doctors recommend eating small, frequent meals because a lot of food may cause blood sugar to swing up and down, which may effect premenstrual problems.
To stem water retention, many doctors recommend reducing salt intake, and to reduce headaches, avoiding liquor. No scientific studies have proven that exercise can reduce PMS, but there is much anecdotal and indirect evidence that it does.

Exercise may also help reduce water retention.

Vitamin B6, known as pyridoxine, is recommended by some doctors to relieve PMS, but studies on its effectiveness have been inconclusive. Use of extreme doses of it have been associated with neurological problems.

For those whose PMS is unrelieved by most common treatments, more help is available. While not approved for these uses by FDA, some doctors prescribe birth control pills and use of progesterone suppositories (during the premenstrual phase) for PMS. Oral contraceptives prevent ovulation and therefore prevent the luteal phase from occurring.

Although progesterone suppositories have proven no more successful than a placebo in controlled studies, they seem to help some women. Prescription painkillers, diuretics, tranquilizers, and antidepressants are also prescribed by physicians in severe cases.

Fax Us Your Free Event Listing!
(718) 222-1557
24hrs

Join The Colours Team
AIDS Walk
New York
Sunday, May 17, 1998
9:30am @ Central Park
Call (718) 222-1557

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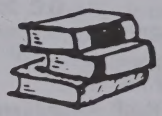

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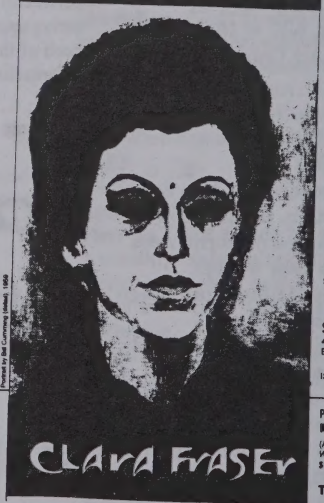

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News Review (Cont'd)

ruled for them previously, Bergen County Superior Court ***Justice Sylvia Moses***, was also the judge in the class action case. New Jersey Deputy Human Services Commissioner ***Michelle Guhl*** credits Moses with having "cleared up the ambiguity" of state adoption law, which had not previously been tested in court. The only states explicitly prohibiting any adoptions by gays and lesbians are Florida and New Hampshire, although judicial interpretations also established bans in Colorado and Wisconsin. A number of states have yet to be tested on the question of joint adoptions by same-gender couples.

Key West First FL DP: Key West has become the first city in Florida to decide to extend spousal benefits to its unmarried workers' domestic partners, whether heterosexual or same-gender. The city also set up a domestic partners registry, with the city clerk providing certification for a $50 fee, to city residents only. Family leave and other spousal benefits were extended as well in the City Commission's unanimous vote January 22 on ***Commissioner Jimmy Weekley's*** proposal. When the new benefits will go into effect depends on negotiations between the city and its insurance carrier. Monroe County will be reviewing a similar proposal in February.

Bills to Watch Out For: As state legislatures open across the U.S. this month, a new crop of bills are being introduced on gay and lesbian issues; Democratic Delegates to the Virginia General Assembly from liberal Arlington face an uphill battle against the state's strongest Republican position ever with two gay-friendly bills. Delegate ***James Almand*** is seeking to add sexual orientation as a protected category under hate crimes legislation, while Delegate ***Karen Darner*** is making yet another attempt to repeal the penal code section that makes sodomy a felony offense.

Psychoanalysts Uphold Marriage: ***The Executive Council*** of the New York City-based ***American Psychoanalytic Association (APsa)*** on December 18 adopted a resolution supporting legal marriage for same-gender couples. In doing so, APsa joins numerous other organizations and celebrities which have adopted a resolution drafted by the national ***Freedom to Marry Coalition***, which reads, "Because marriage is a basic human right and an individual personal choice, RESOLVED, the state should not interfere with same-gender couples who choose to marry and share fully and equally in the rights, responsibilities, and commitment of civil marriage." APsa President ***Dr. Marvin Margolis***, chair of the APsa's Committee on Issues of Homosexuality ***Ralph Roughton, M.D.***, and chair of the APsa's Board on Professional Standards ***Dr. Donald Rosenblitt*** specifically added their names to the APsa's announcement of its action, with Rosenblitt noting that psychoanalytic education has a significant role in understanding the roots of homophobia.

MoMA Tribute to Versace: A lavish fund-raiser December 8 officially kicked off New York City's ***Museum of Modern Art's Costume Institute*** retrospective display of the work of the late openly gay designer ***Gianni Versace***, who was killed in July allegedly by open gay Andrew Cunanan. The $2,000-a-plate dinner was a major social event of the year, whose 900 attendees included designers ***John Galliano, Jean-Paul Gaultier, Calvin Klein, Oscar de la Renta, Ralph Lauren,*** and ***Miuccia Prada; models Kate Moss*** and ***Claudia Schiffer;*** actors ***Hugh Grant, Helen Hunt, Liz Hurley,*** and ***Gwyneth Paltrow;*** and singers ***Courtney Love*** and ***Cher***. An even larger number of people turned out for the $200-per-head dance following the dinner. ***Sting*** sang for the diners, and he, ***Madonna*** and event co-chair ***Elton John*** all completely denied a "New York Post" story charging that they had argued as to which of them would perform at the event..
MoMA expects more than 300,000 visitors over the next four months to attend the display of 90 Versace creations, leading the Costume Institute to consider questions of crowd control and security for the first time in its history. The display is divided into sections including ***"History," "Dream" and "Landmark,"*** representing respectively Versace's homage to his Italian heritage; his creations for rock, opera and ballet productions; and some of his most-publicized works, including the famous "safety-pin" dress Elizabeth Hurley wore to the Oscars and an embroidered dress Princess Diana appeared in on the cover of "Harper's Bazaar."

Heche Honored by Film Review Board: ***The National Board of Review*** handed out its annual film awards on December 9, including a Best Supporting Actress prize to open lesbian ***Anne Heche*** (Ellen DeGeneres' partner) for her work in "Wag the Dog" and "Donnie Brasco." "As Good As It Gets" brought a Best Supporting Actor to ***Greg Kinnear*** for his role as a gay artist, as well as a Best Actor for ***Jack Nicholson***. Gay-friendly actor ***Richard Gere*** shared with ***Jon Avnet*** in the Board's ***"Freedom of Expression"*** award for 1997.

Elton John Honored by Billboard: ***Elton John*** picked up still more awards for his record-breaking tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales, ***"Candle in the Wind 1997,"*** at Billboard's annual music awards in Las Vegas December 8. Since Billboard awards are based on record sales and radio airplay as compiled from the last 12 months' Billboard charts, there was no stopping "Candle" from taking ***Single of the Year*** or John from taking awards for Singles Artist and Singles Sales Artist of the Year, but Billboard threw in an additional special award for John and lyricist Bernie Taupin for creating the biggest-selling single of all time.
John handed over the first "Candle" royalties check of $33-million for the ***Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund,*** in a presentation to Diana's sister Lady Sarah McCorquodale at Kensington Palace. "Candle" will further benefit the fund when a hand-written copy of its lyrics, signed by both John and Taupin, is auctioned off next December. Among Diana's favorite charities benefiting from the memorial fund is Britain's National AIDS Trust. "Candle" has now reportedly reached worldwide sales of 33 million copies.

CitiBank Sponsors Elton's Tour: It's rather rare for corporations to select openly gay celebrities for endorsements of any kind, but in an effort to increase its recognition as a world presence, ***Citibank*** has arranged to be the sole sponsor of Elton John's 65-city ***"The Big Picture Tour,"*** in a multi-million-dollar deal including television commercial spots, billboards and print ads with John and consumer retail promotions in 56 nations. The tour began January 21 in Biloxi, Mississippi, and includes cities in Europe, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand as well as the U.S. At a kickoff event January 22, Citibank presented John with a check for $1-million for the ***Elton John AIDS Foundation***, and at least another million

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Kiddie Korner (Cont'd)

written by Caleen Sinnette Jennings for Imagination Stage.
Br'er Rabbit gets caught in a trap, stuck down a well and thrown into the briar patch, but he also manages to teach young Master Harris some lessons about freedom along the way. White Flint Mall, 11301 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda, MD.

April 18, 1998
Capital Crescent Trail
Funds raised by this hour-long walkathon benefit groups of suicide survivors at D.C.'s St. Francis Center and prevention programs run by the American Association of Suicidology and Loudoun County's Suicide Prevention Task Force. Participants may walk, run, bike, skate or choose another form of locomotion to propel themselves along the Capital Crescent Trail for an hour.
Each participant receives a T-shirt, and prizes are awarded to the person in each category covering the most distance in the hour. (Run starts at the beginning of the trail), Off Bethesda & Woodmont Aves, Bethesda, MD, (202) 237-2280.

April 22-24, 1998
To Kill a Mockingbird
The stage version of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is presented by the Montana Rep. Issues of prejudice, race and the value of human life are dealt with in the setting of a small Southern town in the 1930s. The story revolves around a court case in which a white attorney defends a young black man falsely charged with raping a white woman. The show is appropriate for children in grades seven and above.
Prince George's Publick Playhouse, 5445 Landover Rd, Cheverly, MD, (301) 277-1710

April 25, 1998
Third Annual Poetry Day
This program, which features readings by local poets, is an annual celebration to commemorate National Poetry Month and emphasize the importance of poetry. Scheduled participants include children from the local poetry project Metro Muse, who read at 11:30 a.m. They are followed at 12:30 p.m. by acclaimed area poet Brandon Johnson and local celebrity and poetry-slam champion D.J. Renegade. At 1:30, members of the WritersCorps Poetry Workshop read, followed by the Woodshed Poets Workshop. The program concludes with an open reading at 3:30 p.m. by Kenny Carroll and Brian Gilmore. Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G St NW, Washington, DC, (202) 727-1264.

April 25, 1998
Alice
White Rabbit, Dormouse, Tweedledum and Tweedledee, Mad Hatter and Mock Turtle all come out in this presentation of Alice in Wonderland by Canada's Motus O Dance Company. Combining theater, mime, music and dance with physical athleticism and dazzling costumes, the company gives you an Alice you've never seen before. Presented by the Arlington County Cultural Affairs Division. Thomas Jefferson Theatre, 125 S Old Glebe Rd, Arlington, VA, (703) 548-1154

May 2, 1998
Storytelling Workshop Led by Master Storyteller Odds Bodkin
Master storyteller Odds Bodkin leads this all-day seminar on techniques for developing and presenting stories. Potomac Overlook Regional Park Nature Center , 2845 N Marcey Rd, Arlington, VA, (703) 528-5406

May 3, 1998
Open House and Heritage Festival
Park visitors enjoy this annual festival of games, food, exhibits and the maypole dance Potomac Overlook Regional Park Nature Center , 2845 N Marcey Rd, Arlington, VA, (703) 528-5406

May 3, 1998
Peter and the Wolf
Prokofiev's musical tale of young Peter and his struggles with a rogue wolf is illustrated with marionettes by puppeteers Terry Snyder and Christopher Huddert. Prokofiev devoted a different solo instrument to each character, resulting in an easy-to-follow composition. This seasoned team has developed a unique opening act to set up the story, involving audience participation and a few surprises. McLean Community Center, Alden Theater, 1234 Ingleside Ave, McLean, VA, (703) 790-9223

May 8, 1998
Friends of the National Zoo Guppy Gala ZooFari for Kids
For the "Guppy Gala," the zoo is transformed into a carnival with rides, attractions and sundry sweets. Children and their families can look down at the zoo from a Ferris wheel, slither down a giant slide, hop in a moon bounce, tumble in space simulators, make crafts and sit behind the wheel of emergency vehicles. National Zoological Park, 3001 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC, (202) 673-4800. Adults must accompany children.

May 16-17, 1998
Rose Hill Day Festival
Rose Hill Manor, the home of Gov. Thomas Johnson from 1798 to 1819, celebrates 200 years of history. Festival activities, including hayrides, food and music, are in all areas of the park and offer something for every member of the family. Rose Hill Manor Children's Museum, 1611 N Market St, Frederick, MD, (301) 694-1646.

Mar 18-Apr 19,1998
Cinderella
Set in 17th-century France, this production combines elaborate costumes of the Comedie Francaise and Offenbach's "Gaiety Parisian" to adorn the tale of the enslaved girl who captures the heart of a handsome prince. Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., Glen Echo 20812. Call 301/320-6668 for more information.

END

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SPECIAL EVENTS (CONT'D)

May 16, 1998
MCC Washington "Unity in Diversity, Celebrating Community Ties" 27th Anniversary Gala featuring guest performers. For further information call (202) 638-7373.

May 22-25, 1998
DC's Black Lesbian & Gay Pride
Throughout the Memorial Day Weekend, local clubs and promoters will host "Official BLACK PRIDE" parties for our men and women. Call (202) 667-8188 or I 800 942-5473

Other

April 30-3, 1998
9th Annual South Carolina G & L Pride March & Festival
Myrtle Beach, SC. For further information call (803) 215-3305.

May 28-31, 1998
Virginia Women's Music Festival
In Touch Campground, Kent's Store, VA For further information (804) 589-6542.

June 19-28, 1998
Gay & Lesbian Film Festival in CA
Call (415) 703-8650

June 26, 27, 28
Atlanta Pride
Atlanta Pride Committee, Inc., 828 West Peachtree St. NW, Suite 206, Atlanta, GA 30308, http://www.atlantapride.org. Questions for the webmaster , Office: 404-876-3700, Fax: 404-876-3702, PRIDE Line: I-888-ATL-PRIDE

END

Make A Play For Us

The Kennedy Center Seeks New American Plays New Extended Deadline!
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts seeks submissions for its 1998 Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays.

The Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays is sponsored in part by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and

Grant Categories

Theater Grants to underwrite expenses relating to the enhancement and support of the creative process, including hiring special guest artists, allowing larger cast sizes, and keeping the playwright on site for extended rehearsals and rewrites. In addition, the playwright will receive a $10,000 award.
A separate, incentive grant, The Roger L. Stevens Award, is presented to playwrights whose works show exceptional promise ($2,500). *Beginning this year, a new grant for the most promising comedy writer will be awarded in the amount of $5,000.*

Eligibility

Any non-profit professional American theater company may apply for financial support for one new play that will open on stage in its world premiere no earlier than November 1, 1998, and no later than December 31, 1999. The play submitted must be written by a U.S. citizen.

Selection Process

Funding decisions will be based on the artistic excellence and promise of the scripts and proposals submitted. Theaters receiving grants will be contacted by mid-September, 1998, with an awards ceremony and official announcement to follow shortly thereafter at the Kennedy Center.

Submission Deadline-New Extended Date!

All subm
ission packages must be received by Friday, May 1, 1998

How to Apply
1. All applications must be submitted by a theater company. No submissions from individual
playwrights will be accepted.
2. If the application is for a co-production, one theater must serve as primary representative.
3. For an application form and full details on what the submission package must contain, contact:

The Kennedy Center Fund for New American Plays
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
2700 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20566
Tel.(202) 416-8024
Fax (202) 416-8205

News Review (Cont'd)

will be raised for the Foundation in the course of the sponsorship through a "cause-related marketing" program.

Awards & Nominations: The 25th annual *American Music Awards* were presented January 26, including a Favorite Artist trophy for *Elton John* in the Adult Contemporary genre. Also of interest to some, *Julio Iglesias* beat out his own son, Enrique, for the Favorite Artist award in the new Latin Music category. Nominations for the American Music Awards are developed based on sales and radio airplay, and winners are selected by a poll of a representative sample of the public. The big winners were the *Spice Girls,* taking Favorite Group, New Artist and Album awards in the Pop-Rock category, while *Puff Daddy* went in with five nominations and went home with no wins. ABC's telecast of the awards presentation was the lowest-rated in the show's history, but it was still the night's best numbers and a sorely needed bright spot in a very bad week for the gay-friendly net. **The Screen Actors Guild** announced on January 27 the nominees for its annual awards in 13 categories, in which the 90,000 members of the union honor their peers. The awards will be presented on March 8, including a Life Achievement Award for *Elizabeth Taylor.* Open lesbian *Ellen DeGeneres* was nominated for her role as open lesbian *"Ellen"* for Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Comedy Series, a category in which she faces Golden Globe winner *Calista Flockhart* (whose *"Ally McBeal"* also took the best comedy Globe), multiple Emmy winner *Helen ("Mad About You") Hunt, Julia ("Seinfeld") Louis-Dreyfus,* and *Kirstie ("Veronica's Closet") Alley. Greg Kinnear* was nominated for his gay role in *"As Good As It Gets"* for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Supporting Role, where he has some awesome competition from *Robin Williams* for *"Good Will Hunting," Anthony Hopkins* for *"Amistad," Burt Reynolds* for *"Boogie Nights,"* and *Billy Connolly* for **"Mrs. Brown."** "As Good As It Gets" also garnered nods for *Helen Hunt* and *Jack Nicholson* for Outstanding Performances in Leading Roles. Two gay-themed stories won nominations for Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Television Movie or Miniseries for *Glenn Close* for *"In the Gloaming"* and for *Faye Dunaway* for *"The Twilight of the Golds."* They're up against *Sigourney Weaver* for *"Snow White: A Tale of Terror," Mare Winningham* for *"George Wallace,"* and *Alfre Woodard* for *"Miss Evers' Boys."*

Director's Guild of America announced on January 26 the five nominees for its single annual competitive award for best film directing, and one of those nominees is open gay *Gus Van Sant* for his work on *"Good Will Hunting."* He's in excellent company with *James L. Brooks* for *"As Good As It Gets"* (with its supporting gay character), *Steven Spielberg* for *"Amistad," James Cameron* for *"Titanic,"* and *Curtis Hanson* for *"L.A. Confidential." Van Sant* (who also directed the lesbian-led "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues," as well as "My Own Private Idaho") says he's now in the process of developing *John Callaghan's* book *"He Won't Get Far on Foot"* into a vehicle for *Robin Williams* (who played a supporting role in "Good Will Hunting") for *TriStar.* The DGA will also be honoring *Francis Ford Coppola* with its D.W. Griffith Award for career achievement.

Producer's Guild of America will be presenting its David O. Selznick Lifetime Achievement Award on March 3 to *Clint Eastwood,* whose most recent work was directing the film realization of the real-life gay murder mystery *"Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil."*

American Film Marketing Association, Just for the sake of completeness, even the film marketers are honoring their peers with awards, this year with a new annual "Independence Award" for lifetime achievement by "filmmakers and distributors whose vision, tenacity and independence have enabled them to make a genuinely unique contribution to film." The first one goes to *Saul Zaentz* for *"The English Patient"* -- a heteromantic film whose real-life subject was gay.

Sundance Honors, Tube Notes: There were honors for several gay-themed works as the Sundance Film Festival drew to a close January 25.

"Out of the Past," director/producer *Jeff Dupre's* documentary on the 1996 struggle to organize the Gay/Straight Alliance at East High School in Salt Lake City, Utah, won the audience vote for best documentary. The young activist who played a key role in organizing the club, Jacob Orosco, committed suicide in September 1997. The audience prizes are among the most coveted at Sundance, where it's not always the judges' trophy winners that go on to wider distribution. Another documentary, *"Divine Trash," Steve Yeager's* documentary about openly gay filmmaker John Waters and his creation of "Pink Flamingoes," won one of the festival's Filmmaker Trophies (voted by the movie makers at the festival).

"High Art," a lesbian-themed portrayal of New York City's fashion world, garnered the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award for *Lisa Cholodenko,* who also directed. "2by4," Jimmy Smallhorne's drama of Irish immigrants and a violent gay underworld, won a cinematography prize.

The big winner in dollars among the gay-themed films so far is *"Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss,"* whose world rights were purchased by Trimark Pictures for about $600,000. Its depiction of a gay photographer's crush on a musician who works as a waiter was written and directed by *Tommy O'Haver* (his first feature) and produced by *David Moseley* with *Mererdith Scott Lynn* and *Irene Turner.* Openly gay actor *Sir Ian McKellan* won high praise from *"Variety"* for his portrayal in *"Gods & Monsters"* of historic open gay James Whale, director of "Frankenstein," "The Bride of Frankenstein" and "The Invisible Man," based on open gay Christopher Bram's book "Father of Frankenstein." "Gods & Monsters," part of the "American Spectrum" sidebar, was directed and written by *Bill Condon* and produced by *Paul Colichman, Gregg Feinberg* and *Mark Harris,* and McKellan's co-stars include Lynn Redgrave and Brendan ("George of the Jungle") Fraser.

"The Opposite of Sex," Sony Classics' first feature from screenwriter *Don Rios,* billed as "a romantic comedy about homophobia," was appalauded for its humor by the "New York Times," with a special nod to *Christina Ricci* ("Go Fish") for her work both here and in another Sundance entry, *"Buffalo 66."*

Slamdance Film Festival: *"Surrender Dorothy,"* which depicts a bisexual drug addict, took the $2,000+ Grand Jury prize for writer/director/star *Kevin DiNovis* and producer *Richard Goldman.* **"Pink"**

French Film Turns Golden: *"Ma Vie en Rose,"* the French film about a transgender boy and his family, won the Best Foreign Film Golden Globe award on January 18. Openly gay and lesbian nominees *Rupert Everett ("My Best Friend's Wedding")*

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HEALTHWATCH (CONT'D)

works to prevent prostaglandin production. If it does, its effect appears to be milder than that of aspirin or other NSAIDs.

It may help the headache and backache that often accompany menstrual cramps. Some over-the-counter menstrual pain medications, such as Midol and Pamprin, contain a mix of ingredients that include an analgesic such as acetaminophen, a diuretic such as pamabrom, and an antihistamine such as pyrilamine maleate. Some newer formulations now use ibuprofen in place of more classic analgesics such as aspirin or acetaminophen.

Midol 200 Advanced Cramp Formula, for example, contains ibuprofen as its active ingredient. Maximum Strength Midol Multi-Symptom Formula, however, contains acetaminophen as an analgesic.

With the variety of ingredients now available, it's wise to read the label to make sure the product is the best one to treat your symptoms. All medications carry risks. Ask your doctor of pharmacist to explain the benefits, risks and costs of all treatment alternatives.

Other Treatments

Women who use oral contraceptives rarely suffer menstrual cramps, so some doctors prescribe them for women whose cramps are unrelieved by other treatments.

Contraceptive pills disrupt the normal hormonal changes of the menstrual cycle, resulting in a thinner uterine lining and a decrease in prostaglandins production.

However, menstrual cramp relief is not considered by FDA to be a primary reason to use oral contraceptives; rather, it is included in the labeling as a secondary benefit.

Exercise, too, may be of some benefit, possibly because it raises levels of beta endorphins, chemicals in the brain associated with pain relief.

With new knowledge, such as the possible roles of exercise and of prostaglandins in preventing cramps, most women can avoid suffering the monthly anguish of severe menstrual pain.

Relieving PMS

Cramps aren't the only problem women suffer in their monthly cycles. For many, premenstrual syndrome (PMS) can be just as bothersome.

PMS occurs in the last 7 to 10 days of the menstrual cycle, called the luteal phase. The time at which these symptoms occur is very important because it allows tracking their cyclic nature and making a diagnosis.

While premenstrual syndrome remains a mysterious malady, there is growing recognition that it is a true physical syndrome, and there are a number of new treatments to help lessen its symptoms.

The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG) says from 20 to 40 percent of all women suffer some symptoms of PMS, which it defines as "a recurring cycle of symptoms that are so severe as to affect lifestyle or work."

ACOG estimates that 5 percent of women have severely disabling PMS. The variety of symptoms and combinations of symptoms are usually divided into four major groups, according to the FDA's division of metabolism and endocrine drug products.

Breast tenderness, swelling, weight gain, and bloating comprise one group of symptoms.

A second group includes emotional changes such as depression, forgetfulness, crying, insomnia, and confusion.

A third group involves headaches, food cravings (especially sweets), increased appetite, fatigue, and dizziness.

The fourth group includes anxiety, nervous tension, mood swings, and irritability.

For the most part, PMS is alleviated by treating its symptoms. For example, for those who suffer from symptoms of water retention, diuretics may help. They are a component of many OTC medications for PMS.

In 1988, FDA tentatively proposed that three OTC diuretics could be used in menstrual drug products (including those that treat PMS): caffeine, ammonium chloride, and pamabrom.

It is believed that caffeine may help relieve bloating and water retention because it acts as a mild diuretic, and that it also may help relieve the fatigue many women complain of in the premenstrual period.

On the other hand, excessive amounts of caffeine may aggravate anxiety and tension, and some doctors think it may be associated with increased breast tenderness.

Some over-the-counter medications for PMS combine several ingredients. One product, for example, contains pyrilamine maleate (an antihistamine approved for OTC use but not specifically for PMS), pamabrom and acetaminophen.

Women should read the labels of OTC products and check with their doctors or pharmacists for advice on the best treatments for the specific PMS symptoms they have.

Some health professionals believe women may be able to help themselves through the discomfort of

PMS without pills by exercising, eliminating or cutting down on smoking, and changing their diets.

News Review (Cont'd)

and *Ellen DeGeneres ("Ellen")*, as well as the gay-themed films *"In and Out"* and *"My Best Friend's Wedding,"* the TV show "Ellen," and portrayals of lesbian and gay film characters by non-gays *Joey Lauren Adams ("Chasing Amy")* and *Greg Kinnear ("As Good As It Gets")*, were shut out for prizes.

GLAAD Nominates Positive Media: The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, today announced the nominees for its Ninth Annual GLAAD Media Awards, honoring "balanced and accurate representations of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and the issues that affect their lives." As last year, the awards will be presented at three different events, March 30 in New York City, April 4 in Washington, DC, and April 19 in Los Angeles.

Married Lesbians on "20/20": The December 4 edition of *ABC's "20/20"* featured a segment *by John Stossel* with women who were already in heterosexual marriages when they discovered that they were lesbians. *Deb Abbott*, co-author of *"From Married Wife to Lesbian Life,"* consulted in the show's development, although a taped interview with her has been cut. Women from Boston, Cincinnati and Colorado Springs appear with their husbands and children describing the painful process of breaking up marriages of as much as 20 years' duration.
It was also suggested that the societal homophobia that made lesbianism unthinkable at the time some of the women were married is the key to their story.

HBO premiered its 70-minute just-for-fun documentary: *"Dragtime"* featured almost everyone you've ever heard of who entertains as a female impersonator: *Charles Busch, Charles Pierce, Lypsinka, Joey Arias, Lady Bunny*, and many more. Venues range from New York City at Christmas to New Orleans at Mardi Gras, plus assorted clubs, pride events, and clothing stores. Produced and directed by Patti Kaplan.

The Ultimate Goal of Gay Liberation: *"Entertainment Weekly"* asked gameshow host *Bob Eubanks* the burning question at the top of everyone's "gay agenda": "If same-sex marriage is legalized, will you allow gay couples on [the new syndicated revival of] *'The Newlywed Game'?"* Eubanks responded, "Absolutely. If that's what society permits, who am I to be judgmental?"

Ellen Hanging, Brochtrup Back: The future of ABC's pioneering sitcom *"Ellen"* is in some doubt, although ABC Entertainment President *Jamie Tarses* has many positive things to say about it. ABC is most concerned about the show's inability to hold onto the viewers of its lead-in *"The Drew Carey Show,"* one of the troubled network's most popular offerings, with "Ellen's" audience an average of more than 20% less than "Drew's." "Ellen's" own audience has also declined in the course of the season, despite critical acclaim. "Ellen" is back to rerunning this season's sub-brilliant *"Gay Yellow Pages"* episode and the possibility has been raised that a new sitcom may get a tryout in its timeslot for six weeks beginning in March.

Coming Out Website Launched: December 15 marked the launch of *AllTogether.com*, a new non-profit website devoted to providing answers and resources for those coming out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered, and their families and friends. *Loren Javier*, interactive media director for *GLAAD*, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, said, "It is one of the finest Web pages I have seen on the 'net...and I have seen many, many pages. It's inclusive, interesting and important." It also comes with numerous endorsements from organizations including the *National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), Parents, Families* and *Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network (GLSEN), Digital Queers (DQ)*, and *Log Cabin Republicans*, and from gay-friendly actress *Judith Light* and her former "Who's the Boss?" colleague, open gay *Danny Pintauro*. AllTogether.com is powered by *PlanetOut*, which also consulted with the site's designer, *Jeffrey Seiff*.
AllTogether.com is intended to be unusually user-friendly, including responding to the diversity of its potential audience. "Intelligent agent" technology allows visitors to ask their own questions in their own words and receive exactly the information they're seeking. To answer those questions, visitors can select a virtual personal "guide," choosing from a range of personal characteristics (age, race, religion, sexual orientation, parental status, occupation) they'd like their guide to have. Whatever the question, the site suggests a range of relevant resources, including books (some available for secured credit card purchase), films, articles online, and Internet links. The resources the site recommends to LGBTs for further information are also sorted by ethnicity and religion as well as by issue area.
AllTogether.com is proud that it offers anti-gay as well as pro-gay views on issues, a step organizers believe is important in helping potential non-gay allies to feel connected. As they put it, "AllTogether hopes to make known that pro-gay pieces are usually supported by scientific evidence while opposing views are largely editorial."

END

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Women in Self Help (WISH) offers FREE workshops for mature women heads of household in: Career Goal Planning; Resume Writing; Job Interviewing Skills; Math, Reading & Writing. (718) 768-9700

Single Parents Support Group - Ms. Sylvester (718) 756-7468

YAADA'S Pride in The Bronx Drop-in Center Support Group for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth
(718) 364-9529

Life Force-Women Fighting AIDS (718) 797-0937

PFLAG (Parents, Families & Friends of Gays and Lesbians) monthly meeting 3 - 5pm. Christ Church Bay Ridge, 7301 Ridge Blvd. (718) 769-1421

Shades of Lavender: This four-year-old project of Brooklyn AIDS Task Force (BATF's) Education Department is a community space for lesbian and bisexuals women and youth located in Park Slope, Brooklyn. Shades of Lavender is committed to HIV/AIDs, recovery, healing and empowerment in our community

Always Your Choice (Marc Gossin, RPA, Director) Gay owned and Operated: confidential HIV testing, extensive pre-post counseling - primary medical care - sliding scale (212) 677-1777

Black Women's Health Project - Non traditional/alternative health service for black women - wheelchair accessible (212) 439-8749

Overeater Anonymous/Metro Group (212) 206-7859

Women in Need, Inc. Drug and alcohol rehabilitation program for women (212) 695-7330

Pet Owners with AIDS - ARC Resource Service Total pet care service for people with HIV/AIDS (212) 744-0842

Safe Space Center for homeless youth; housing, food, showers, educational services, GED, medical assistance, HIV testing provided. (212) 354-7233.

Share - Self Help for Women with Breast or Ovarian Cancer Alice Yaker, Director: (212) 719-0364; Hotline: (212) 382-2111 (English); (212) 719-4454 (Spanish).

Latinos & Latinas de Ambiete/NY (LLANY): the Latino Lesbian & Gay Organization of New York - An educational, social, cultural and advocacy organization of Latino/a queers. Program includes Latino Queer Arts Project; the Annual Toy Drive for kids w/AIDS; Coming Out Support Groups & Newsletter. LLANY meets every 2nd Friday every month, 8pm, the Center, 208 W 13th St., NYC. For more information contact (212) 614-2945.

Unity Fellowship Church Reverend Zachary G. Jones, Pastor; 230 Classon Ave. at Willoughby Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205; (718) 636-5646. Worship & Study Service Sunday 3-5pm; Members class Sunday 2pm.

Liberation In Truth/Unity Fellowship Church Reverend Jacquelyn Holland, Pastor/Founder; 608 Broad Street @ Rector, Newark, NJ Services: Sunday at 3:30pm (212) 228-3329.

The Audre Lorde Project: Center for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Two-spirit &

Transgender People of Color Communities, 85 South Oxford St., Fort Greene, Bklyn. For further information call (718) 596-0342.

New York City Metropolitan Gender Network 39 West 14th St., Suite 207, NYC at 3PM. (718) 402-6763. Next meeting, March 8th: Lavender and Green, and Irish Lesbian and Gay Organization (ILGO) discuss their organization. New York Workers Against Fascism (NYWAF) will discuss topic, "Stopping Racist Violence".

The Lesbian Artists Support Group meets on the third Monday of the month from 6-8pm at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th St. Open to all artist - visual, writers, dancers, musicians, performance artists, etc. Come and join us! For more information call Barbara at (718) 768-1605.

BiNet/NJ's Bisexual Support Group, Tuesdays at 7:30-9:30pm, 211 Livingston Ave. Suite B, New Brunswick, NJ (908) 846-2232

Whitman-Walker Clinic: Lesbian Services Program. Pap smear, breast exam, pelvic exam, STD screening, cervical cancer screening, HIV testing, mammography referral & counseling. To schedule an appointment call (202) 939-7875.

Black Lesbian Support Group - Creating a community of support and information for African American Lesbians through peer-led group discussion and social activities. (202) 797-3593

Lesbian Mental & Physical Health Services (202) 797-3585

NJ Coalition for Battered Women- (609) 584-8107 Lesbian Sensitive

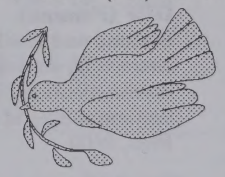
SED Center Spanish Education Development Center provides English as a second language classes to the immigrant community and provides educational programs for children ages 3-4, their families and adults in the Washington metropolitan area. (202) 462-8848

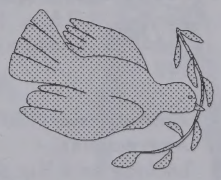
Custody Action for Lesbian Mothers (CALM, Inc.) Legal advocacy and referral for lesbian mothers. (610) 667-7508

Coalition for Abused Women

Counseling, support groups, legal services and emergency housing (516) 542-5726

20's Group: A place for gay men and lesbians in their 20's to meet. (301) 419-8020





PERSONALS

Mature Attractive GBF 35+ seeking same for friendship. Serious D&D free person only. #101

Real Adult looking for same. Should be 40 + GBF without attachments. #121

Looking for a special person for my friend! Can you help me? She is an "all natural" boy type, in her late 20s, tall, very athletic and open minded. BiF need not apply! You should be without baggage, non-smoker, close in age, single, and open minded. Race, color or type not important! Phone number and picture a must. If I like you...then you've got a chance. #116

Sincere Attractive Aggressive GBF 35 year old. Seeking friendship & other with open minded D & D free women between 30-40 years of age only. #125

GBF (Femme)
Newly relocated to DE. Have 5 year old daughter & loves to cook. Looking for a mature, honest & down to earth woman that enjoys traveling. I'm a petite woman so you should be
small - medium build. #127

GBF (Femme)
Seeking and ideal playmate. Attractive, shapely, good communication skills, with a deep understanding of sensuality. D/D Free. #100

GBF (Femme)
5'1 152lbs, 36 years old. Looking for an aggressor who knows what she wants. D&D free. No Bisexuals. Kids OK. Must be very sincere. # 142

Professional GBF (Femme Aggressive)
Looking for a Hot & Sexy Hispanic. I prefer a petite women who are ultra femme. Must be mature and career oriented. Over 23 years of age. No Bi's and No Aggressives. Honesty is the Best Policy. D/D Free. #111

Lonely Lovable Lady
GBF (28) tired of going to the movies alone. Tired of being a 3rd wheel. Maybe you can keep me company. Must be 28-38, secure & without baggage. #112

Mature Professional Femme
GBF seeking same to share hot baths - hot sex & hot love. Please 28 yrs +. #102

GBF Attractive fem searching for financially stable fem/aggressor. Must be 35-40, spiritual, honest, attractive (Don't get discouraged if you don't fit the bill. Just have confidence!), and want to have fun. How about getting to know each other better? I'm sure you won't be disappointed. # 139

I've got a lover but need a mistress! Looking for femme under 32 who wants to have fun without strings attached. Sex, Sex & more Sex. #115

GBF, 38. This Aggressor is 5'6", 180 lbs, is looking for a woman who knows what she wants. D&D free, NO bi's. Femmes only! Non-smoker. #126

Femmes Only
Attractive Soft Butch, Latin, 43 seeking young spirited femme, 38-48. #134

MULTIPLES

2 is better than 1
Open minded GBF seeking mature & financially secure lesbian couple to fulfill all their sexual pleasures. #208

Couple seeking young hot & very horny girl to please us on demand. Must be open minded with alot of flexibility. Should be under 27 but older than 21. The younger the better. Send pic. & details. #201

ANYTHINGS GOES

Naughty little girl needs a spanking. Seeking dom type for discipline. Should be mature single D&D free. #025

BiF loves TOYS! Do you have any for me to play with? Strap one on & give me orgasm after orgasm. Anything goes! Age, color or orientation not important. #014

Experienced Black Master 40's is seeking a kind, friendly, very honest, sexy, non-smoking, D &D free, submissive, bright, straight or bi lady. Black, Latin, Asian or White. 24+ eager to serve me in Ft. Green Brooklyn. I enjoy everything kinky, from wild to mild. Limits definitely respected. Okay naughty girls your prince is waiting. Photo & phone very helpful... #066

Something Extra
Femme GBF (25-30) in open relationship seeking same. No commitment, no strings attached. #006

Travel Buddy
Mature GBF 26 seeking GBF 30-40 for intimate travel companion. Weekends & Vacations. Financially secure individuals should send picture & details. #010

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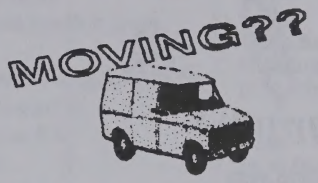

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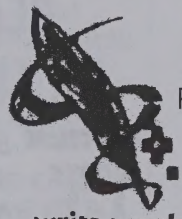

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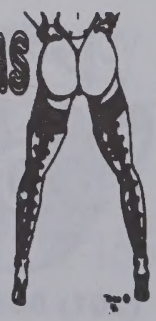
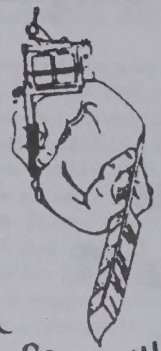


Tattoos & Body Piercing
By Rico Suavé

Life Imitates Art



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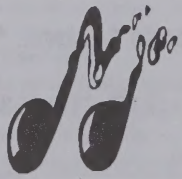

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TYPIST AND GRAPHIC DESIGNER
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SHORT STORY COMPETITION
The Arch and Bruce Foundation is hosting a short story competition for the group's 1997/98 writing grants. Works must "present the Gay and Lesbian lifestyle in a positive manner and be based on, or directly inspired by, a historical person or event." Submissions must be unpublished, original, and in English. Submissions are due by May 31, 1998. Send a double-spaced typed copy of the manuscript with the author's name, address, and phone number to The Arch and Bruce Brown Foundation, Box 45231, Phoenix, AZ 85064.

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Writers, Poets Artist and Photographers wanted for I'VE GOT NUTTIN' BUT LOVE FOR YOU HONEY...an anthology of love and intimacy by African American Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Straight and Cross Gender writers. Byline: Love and Intimacy. Submit with bio to GATEWAY Publishing, PO Box 56952, Atlanta, GA 30343

VOLUNTEERS needed with outreach/community-organizing experience to help develop and implement strategies for increasing attendance at its sessions. Call Trish Kerle at (212) 620-7310.

VOLUNTEER Child Care Workers needed to look after children during events held at the center for parents year-round. Call Terry Boggis (212) 620-7310.

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New York Blood Centers need volunteers to help out at the centers in Brooklyn & Manhattan. Training provided. Phone New York Blood Services. (212) 468-2030.

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Beth Israel Health Care System is seeking volunteers to serve as interpreters for patients at the care center, Volunteers who speak Spanish, Russian, or Chinese and are fluent in English are needed. Must be a high school grad and over 18 years. For details call (212) 844-8630.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
for Bucks County HIV/AIDS program. Buddy needed to provide ongoing support and companionship. Must be 18 years or older. Drivers needed to help with transportation to doctor appointments. Center city, support groups, etc. Must have car, driver's license and insurance. Minorities strongly encouraged to apply. Call Susan Rose at Family Service Assn., Project REACH, (215) 757-6916 x48

CALL FOR PERFORMERS
The entertainment committee is pleased to issue a call for performers for Black Lesbian and Gay Pride Day, 1998. We are looking for poets, actors, dancers, singers, musicians, choirs, lip-sync artist, magicians, and comedians. We encourage those whose talents are rarely displayed at events of this kind. Audio or video tapes may be sent to: P.O. Box 77071, Washington, DC 20013-7071. For more information call (202) 667-8188 ext. 7 or email Waysonj@aol.com.

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